

Iowa Chess News

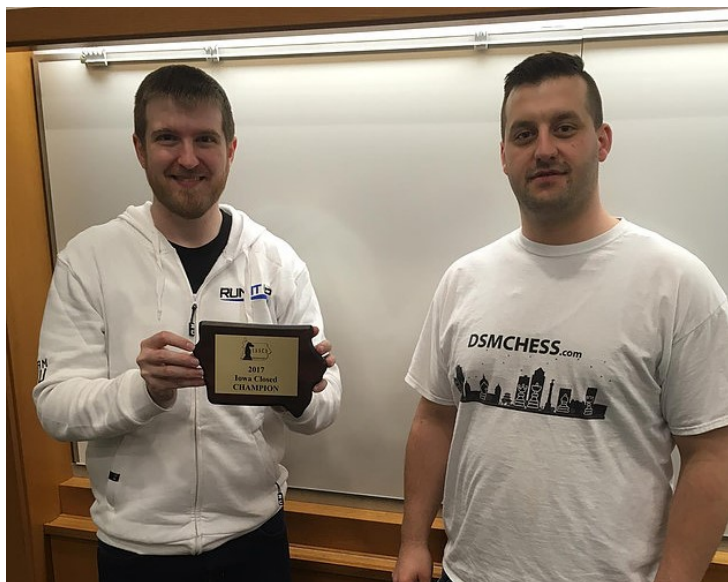
En Passant

Volume 57, Issue 3 Iowa State Chess Association July 2017

PATRON MEMBERS

Mark Capron, Richard Couch, Benjamin Darr, Thomas Daufeldt, Ana Denison, Christine Denison, Jim Freerksen, Geoffry Hadlock, Gerald Hawkins, Thomas Hesse, James Hodina, Mark Kende, Matthew Kriegel, Joseph Kristan, Ben Munson, Samuel Naylor IV, Ron Nurmi, Steve Patterson, Luis Peralta, Dr. Carl Peters, Richard Rector, Robert Reynolds, Arshaq Saleem, Sanmati Thangavel, Gokul Thangavel, John Trunnell, Robert Vance, Eric Vigil, Mitch Weiss, Jim White, Joe Willett, Jasmin Zulic

The names of Patron members will be listed in every issue of *En Passant*. The extra money will be added to the IASCA budget and spent as the membership directs.



Dan Brashaw the 2017 Iowa Closed Champion with new secretary Jim Freerksen (R).

July 15, 2017. OleChess Summer Tournament. This chess tournament is open to non-camper and campers alike! The tournament is great for area players, or for players who will be in a day early. It is a one-day USCF event with two sections, and it is a US Chess Junior Grand Prix event! The tournament is 4 rounds, with a time control of G/61 with 5 second delay. St. Olaf College, Buntrock Commons, Black and Gold Ballroom, 1520 St. Olaf Ave. Northfield, MN 55057. Rds: 10:00 am, 12:45 pm, 3:00 pm, & 5:45 pm. Round times for rounds 3 and/or 4 may be advanced if results permit. One half-point bye available for any round except round 4. **Open Section Prizes:** \$1050 prizes based on 30 entries, minimum 2/class: \$250-\$175-\$125-\$100. Class X, A, B, C/Below/Unrated: \$100 **Reserve Section Prizes:** \$500 prizes based on 30 entries, minimum 2/class: \$150-\$125-\$75-\$50. Class E, F/UNR: \$50. Also (overlapping prizes): plaques to top 5, medals to next 10. **Open:** \$40 by 5:00 pm July 14th, at 5:00 pm \$50 online thereafter; on-site \$50 cash or credit card. **Reserve U1400:** \$25 online by 5:00 pm July 14 at 5:00 pm, \$40 online thereafter; on-site \$40 cash or credit card. Reg: 9:00 am – 9:45 am or online <https://onlineregistration.cc/>. Advanced tournament fee is non-refundable after July 14. You may pre-order lunch using online registration, or many restaurants are available within a 5 minute drive. No smoking. No computers. The site is wheelchair accessible. For more information: OleChess, summer@stolaf.edu, 507-786-3031

July 15-16. 6th Annual Cedar Rapids Chess Workshop with FMs Betaneli and Santarius. The Cedar Rapids Chess Club (CRCC) is honored to host the 6th Annual Cedar Rapids Chess Workshop. Presented by USCF Senior Masters Alex Betaneli and Erik Santarius, this two-day workshop is open to players rated USCF 1100 and above or age 13 and older. We will follow the popular seminar format where Alex and Erik mix up lessons from Grandmaster play and their own games. Participants will match wits against Alex and Erik in critical chess positions followed by group analysis. Saturday at 7 pm we will have a free Quick Chess Tournament with \$200 in cash prizes. The Hotel at Kirkwood, Classroom 124, located at 7725 Kirkwood Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404. Saturday 10 am to 5 pm. Sunday 9 am to 4 pm. Two days = \$99. One day option = \$65. [You may sign up and pay online at www.chessiniowa.org/workshop](http://www.chessiniowa.org/workshop). You may also register by email to James Hodina at james.hodina@chessiniowa.org and an electronic invoice will be mailed to you. Or, you

may register by mail with checks made payable to "Chess in Iowa", c/o James Hodina, 3411 Blue Pointe Ct. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404. Hotel chess workshop rate is \$112. Call 319-848-8700 for reservations. Visit www.chessiniowa.org/workshop for additional information.

July 15, 2017 Cedar Rapids Quick Chess Championship (QC) Open to all. 7-SS, G/10 d2. The Hotel at Kirkwood, 7725 Kirkwood Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404. Room 124. **Reg.:** 6 – 6:45 pm or in advance. **Rds.:** 7pm, ASAP (finish by 10pm). **EF:** \$15. **Prize Info:** 1st = \$80, 2nd = \$40, 3rd = \$20, U1800 = \$20, U1600 = \$20, U1400 = \$20; based on 20 entries. **US Chess Federation(USCF) membership required.** On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee to:** Online registration at www.onlineregistration.cc or by mail to James Hodina, james.hodina@chessiniowa.org, 319-432-1459 3411 Blue Pointe Ct. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404. **Additional Info:** All registrants to the 2017 Cedar Rapids Chess Workshop (www.chessiniowa.org/workshop) get free entry.

July 21-23. 2017 Kansas Open Chess Championship. Holiday Inn, 549 South Rock Rd. Wichita, KS 67207. Friday Blitz and Bughouse. Sat-Sun. 3 sections Open, Reserve (U1800), and Amateur (U1400). For more details see either iowa-chess.org or kansaschess.org.

July 21-23. 2017 US Junior Open. US Chess Junior Grand Prix! St. Olaf College, Buntrock Commons, 1520 St. Olaf Ave., Northfield, MN (50 minutes south of Minneapolis/St. Paul) 6SS, G/90+inc 30. **Rds:** Friday 1:00 pm & 6:00 pm, Saturday 9:30 am & 3:00 pm, Sunday 9:30 am & 3:00 pm. One ½ point bye available for any round, must commit before end of round 2. July supplement used. **Sections and Prizes** (based on age as of 1/1/17): 1st: \$500 cash plus entry in the 2018 US Jr Closed Championship. **U21:** Plaques to top 5 overall. Plaque to top age 18, 17, 16, 15, U15. **U15:** Trophies to top 10 overall. Trophies to top age 14, 13, 12, 11, U11. **U11:** Trophies to top 10 overall. Trophies to top age 10, 9, 8, U8. **U8:** Trophies to top 10 overall. Trophies to top age 7, 6, U6. **Team Prizes:** Trophies to top 3 club or school teams in each section, top 3 scores will count toward team total. **Entry Fee:** \$60 USPS or online by 6 pm July 7; \$70 USPS or online by 6 pm July 14; \$80 online until 6 pm July 20 and at door until 12:30 pm. USChess Membership required and available on site. Make checks payable and send to: Chess Weekend, 21694

Doud Ct., Frankfort, IL 60423. Online at <https://onlineregistration.cc>

Chess Weekend will provide sets, boards; please bring clocks. St. Olaf is offering a special \$45 chess rate for a dorm single, \$72 double. Online registration for dorm rooms is available at chessweekend.com. Thursday evening GM Simul. Saturday night blitz after round 4. For more information: chessweekend.com, glenn@chessweekend.com, or 815-955-4793 before 8 pm

A State Championship Event!

Aug. 18, 2017 Iowa Quick Chess Championship (QC) Open to all. 6-SS, G/10 d3. Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241. **Reg.:** 6 - 7 pm or in advance. **Rds.:** 7:15pm, 7:45, 8:15, 8:45, 9:15, 9:45. **EF:** \$25 if postmarked by 8/14; \$35 On Site; \$5 off if out of state. IM and GM Free (EF deducted) **Prize Info:** \$280 in PRIZES 1st = \$100+Trophy 2nd = \$60 U2000 = \$40, U1600 = \$40, U1200 = \$40 (Based on 25 entries). **US Chess Federation (USCF) membership required.** On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee to:** IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245. or Register online at <https://onlineregistration.cc/> **Additional Info:** The Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Chess rate available, \$128 (**INCLUDES PARKING**) only until 8/1/17, rates may increase after this date. Pool, restaurant, more restaurants in walking distance. 319-688-4000.

63rd Iowa Open Championship

<30 GPP> A Heritage Event!

Aug 19-20. 63rd Iowa Open Championship (USCF & FIDE Rated) IASCA GP Super Qualifier. 5-SS, G/90, i30. Accelerated pairings may be used in Rounds 1-2. IASCA Super GP Qualifier. Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241. **Reg:** 8:30am and ends at 9:30am **Rds:** Sat 10:15, 2:30, & 7:30; Sun 9:30 & 2:30 **EF:** \$57 if postmarked before 8/14; \$69 at site. IM & GM free-EF deducted from any prize, Jrs. & Sr. \$10 off, \$10 off Out of state residents. **Prize Info:** Prizes: (\$2000 b/65 Top 3 Gtd) 600+T-300-200 U2200, U2000, U1800, U1600 150/75 each. **US Chess Federation (USCF) membership required.** On Site Available. **IASCA membership required,** (\$10 or Out of State Accepted (OSA). On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee to:** IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245 or register online at www.onlineregistration.cc **Additional Info:** USCF and FIDE Rated!! Byes: Bye available Rounds 1-3 if requested prior to start

of round. Rounds 4-5 only if requested prior to tournament starting. USCF – August 2017 Rating List will be used for pairing purposes. FIDE rules will be used. Chess Magnet School JGP. Call 319-321-5435 or mcapron243@mcchsi.com **Directions:** Take I-80 to exit 242, go south to 9th street, take a left and follow to the end of 9th street and you are there! The Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Chess rate available, \$128 (**INCLUDES PARKING**) only until 8/1/17, rates may increase after this date. Pool, restaurant, more restaurants in walking distance. 319-688-4000.

Iowa Open Festival Mixed Doubles available. Entry \$5 per person. Average rating of the male/female pair must be less than 2000. Scores will be based on percentage of each player with respect to their section (for example if you score 3 out of 5 you get an 60; if you score 3 out of 4 you get 75, etc). The RBO has 5 rounds, the Reserve 4 rounds, and the Open 5 rounds. Prizes: 1st \$70; 2nd \$40; 3rd 20.

63rd Iowa Open Reserve Championship A State Championship Event!

Aug. 19. 2017 Iowa Reserve Championship Open to U1600. 4-SS, G/75 d5. Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241. **Reg:** On site 8:30-9:30am **Rds:** Sat: 10:15, (Lunch) 1:30, 4:30, & 7:30. **EF:** \$30 if postmarked by 8/14; \$40 at Site; Jrs, Srs, and Out of State \$5 Off. **Prize Info:** \$340 in PRIZES 1st = \$140+Trophy 2nd = \$90 3rd = \$60 U1250 = \$50. **US Chess Federation (USCF) membership required.** On -Site Available. **IASCA membership required,** \$10, On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee to:** IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245 or register online at www.onlineregistration.cc **Additional Info:** Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241 Chess rate available, \$128 (**INCLUDES PARKING**) only until 8/1/17, rates may increase after this date. Pool, restaurant, more restaurants in walking distance. 319-688-4000. Chess Magnet School JGP.

63rd Iowa Open Rated Beginner's Open

Aug. 19, Rated Beginner Open (RBO) Open to U1200 or Unrated. 5-SS, G/30 d5. Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241. **Reg:** 8:30 am to 9:30am **Rds:** Saturday 10:15, Lunch, 12, 1:30 and ASAP **EF:** \$19 if postmarked before 8/14 \$26 on site. \$5 off for out of state. **Prize Info:** Trophies top 5 overall, U 1000, U800, U600, U400 and Unrated 1st

IASCA Board of Directors

President (2018): Eric Vigil 445 Galway Dr. Iowa City, IA 52246 evigil@gmail.com	USCF Delegate (2017): Eric Vigil 445 Galway Dr. Iowa City, IA 52246 evigil@gmail.com	USCF Delegate (2018) Christine Denison 5405 Thackery Drive Ames, IA 50021 christinealicia@gmail.com
At-Large Director (2019): Bill Broich 7149 Wilshire Blvd. Windsor Heights, IA 50322 broich01@yahoo.com	Secretary (2020): Jim Freerksen P.O. Box 41817 Des Moines, IA 50311 james.freerksen@drake.edu	Webmaster: Bethany Carson 15898 D Ave Ackley, IA 50601 bethany.carson@outlook.com
At-Large Director (2018): James Hodina 3411 Blue Pt. Ct. SW Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 james.hodina@mchsi.com	At-Large Director(2018): Bethany Carson 15898 D Ave Ackley, IA 50601 bethany.carson@outlook.com	USCF Delegate (2018) Alt Robert Vance 1612 Carrie Ave Des Moines, IA 50315 rsvance1972@gmail.com
Treasurer (2019): En Passant Editor: Mark Capron 3123 Juniper Drive Iowa City, IA 52245 mcapron243@mchsi.com	At-Large Director (2019): Robert Keating 830 4th Ave Cedar Rapids, IA 52403 rfkeatingmd@msn.com	
Scholastic Chairman: Open	Clearinghouse Director: Daniel Carson 15898 D Ave Ackley, IA 50601 danielcarson715@yahoo.com	

Table of Contents:	Page
Tournament Life	2
Hello From the Editor	5
Puzzle Time	5
New & Returning Members	X
2017 Annual Minutes—Ron Nurmi	7
Senior Championship Goes to NM Mitch Weiss—Eric Vigil & Mark Capron	10
Spotlight On: James Freerksen	12
Brashaw Wins a Threepeat!! - Eric Vigil and Mark Capron	14
Keating Annotates	14, 18, 22, 25, 28
Brashaw Annotates	16, 27
Wan Annotates	20
Neal Annotates	26
Takahashi Annotates	29
Iowa Crowns Many Champions	31
Neal and “The South Dakota Kids” Dominate Okoboji Open and Reserve—Sam Smith	34
Capron Annotates	35
Undefeated in Wellsburg—Bethany Carson	36
Ben Darr Annotates	37
Iowa Graduates Bumper Crop of Elementary School Chess Stars—Jess G. Fiedorowicz	40
Iowa Chess Hall of Fame—Mark Capron	42

Join the Iowa State Chess Association!

The Iowa State Chess Association is a non-profit organization devoted exclusively to the promotion of chess in Iowa.

Join or renew by sending dues to the IASCA Secretary:

Jim Freerksen
P.O. Box 41817
Des Moines, IA 50311

Or Join on our website via iowa-Chess.org

Membership Dues:

Regular \$10 for 1 year
 \$20 for 2 years

Patron: \$25 per year
Affiliates: \$15 per year
Family: \$20 per year
Library: \$25 per year

Hello From the Editor:

Inside you will find contributions from: Jim Hodina, Jim Freerksen, Bob Long, Sam Smith, Ron Nurmi, Robert Keating, Michael Takahashi, Joseph Wan, Dan Brashaw, James Neal, Benjamin Darr, James Hodina, Jess Fiedorowicz, Bill Price, Ron Nurmi, Syl Scorza, Eric Vigil, and Bethany Carson. Photos by Eric Vigil, Jess Fiedorowicz, and Bethany Carson.



Check out the new presence on Social Media. The IASCA has joined Facebook and

Twitter (@IowaChess) to go along with iowa-chess.org.

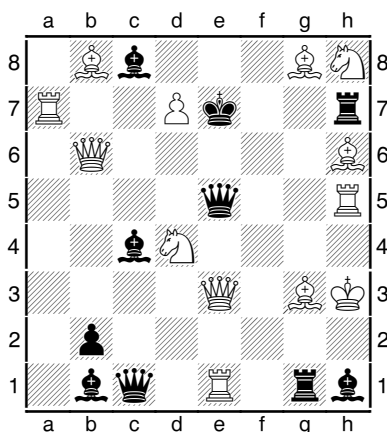
Congrats to Dan Brashaw, winning the Iowa Closed Championship. Congrats to Mitch Weiss for winning the Iowa Senior Championship. Great to see him back at the board.

This issue is chock full of annotated games. There is a nice story from Jess Fiedorowicz about some of Iowa's youth. Get to know your new secretary.

Don't forget about the **Iowa Open on August 18-20**. Lots of competition!! Sign up today.

As always when you see chess news please submit it. —Mark Capron

Puzzle Time:



Hardest Mate in One! White to move. (from Mongoose Press)

En Passant Advertising Rates:

Full Page: \$50
Half Page: \$25
Quarter Page: \$15
Back Page: \$100
TLA (non-IASCA affiliate): \$5
TLA (IASCA affiliate): \$0

Deadline for Contributions to the next issue of the *Iowa Chess News En Passant* are Due Sept 10, 2017. The *Iowa Chess News En Passant* is published quarterly by the Iowa State Chess Association. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the IASCA. None of the contents of the *Iowa Chess News En Passant* may be republished in any manner without the written consent of the editor.

Greetings!

My name is Leo Custodio and as I read over the iowa-chess.org homepage I noticed a section dedicated to the by-laws for playing chess over mail/e-mail. I wanted to understand if this is still something that takes place and - if so - what are the rules of engagement (player selection, etc.).

Thank you,
Leo Custodio

Hello Leo,

Currently we do not have a tournament going. The entries started to wane and so I stopped running the event. If we could get interest we could start this event up again. Thanks for your interest.

--Mark



Chess Workshop

July 15 & 16, 2017

The Hotel at Kirkwood
7725 Kirkwood Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
www.chessiniowa.org/workshop

Two Day Professional
Instruction for only

\$99

One Day Option

\$65



Erik Santarius
USCF 2404



**Open to Players Age 13 & Older
or USCF 1100 & Above**



Alex Betaneli
USCF 2303

\$99 for the two day event (meals not included)

\$65 for a one day registration

Register with James Hodina, james.hodina@chessiniowa.org, or online at
www.chessiniowa.org/workshop

The Cedar Rapids Chess Club (CRCC) is honored to host the 2017 CRCC Chess Workshop. Presented by USCF Senior Masters Alex Betaneli and Erik Santarius, this two-day workshop is open to players rated USCF 1100 and above or age 13 and older. The workshop will begin Saturday at 10:00 am, concluding at 5:00 pm and run 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Sunday. Workshop activities will focus on strategy and tactics through individual and group analysis.

The chess workshop will be held at the Hotel at Kirkwood located at 7725 Kirkwood Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, Room 124. **Registration is \$99 for the two-day training.** An evening, 7 round, Game/10 d2 Quick Chess Tournament will be held Saturday at 7 pm, free to chess workshop participants.

The Kirkwood Hotel is the former host site for the Iowa Closed Championship and Class Championship. Call (877) 751-5111 for overnight room reservations. Chess rate of \$112 while rooms remain available. Additional hotel options are nearby.

A CHESS EVENT FOR PLAYERS OF ALL LEVELS AND ALL AGES!

Quick Chess Championship
August 18

Iowa Reserve
August 19

62nd Iowa Open Championship
IASCA Super GP Qualifier
30 point USCF Grand Prix
Event
A Heritage Event
August 19-20

Rated Beginner Open
August 19

MARRIOTT HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER OFF I-80, CORALVILLE.

Iowa Quick Chess Champ Friday Only!	Iowa Reserve Championship (U1600)	62nd Iowa Open Championship IASCA Super Grand Prix Qualifier	Rated Beginner Open (U1200)
\$280 in PRIZES 1st = \$100+Trophy 2nd = \$60 U2000 = \$40 U1600 = \$40 U1200 = \$40 (Based on 25 entries) Tournament Format 1 Day—6 Round Swiss Friday: 7:15-7:45-8:15-8:45- 9:15-9:45 Time Control G/10 with a 2 second delay Entry Fee: \$25 if postmarked by 8/14 \$35 at Site Out of State \$5 Off IM's & GM's Free (EF de- ducted) On site registration 6pm-7pm.	A one day tournament! Satur- day Only. \$340 in PRIZES 1st = \$140+Trophy 2nd = \$90 3rd = \$60 U1250 = \$50 (Based on 25 entries) Tournament Format 1 Day—4 Round Swiss Sat: 10:15, 1:30, 4:30, & 7:30 Time Control G/75 with a 5 second delay Entry Fee: \$30 if postmarked by 8/14 \$40 at Site Jrs, Srs, and Out of State \$5 Off	USCF and FIDE Rated!! 30 point USCF Grand Prix Event! \$2000 in PRIZES 1st = \$600+Trophy Guaranteed 2nd = \$300 guaranteed 3rd = \$200 guaranteed U2200, U2000, U1800 & U1600; U2 = \$150 2nd = 75 (Based on 65 entries) Tournament Format 2 Day—5 Round Swiss (1-2 Accelerated pairings may be used) Sat 10:15, 2:30, & 7:30; Sun 9 & 2:30 Time Control G/90, with a 30 second increment Entry Fee: \$57 if postmarked by 8/14 \$69 on site Jrs, Srs, and Out of State \$10 off IM's & GM's Free (EF deducted)	A one day tournament! Satur- day Only. TROPHIES Top 5 Overall U1000, U800, U600, U400 & Unrated; 1st and 2nd Tournament Format 1 Day—5 Round Swiss Sat 10:15, 12, 1:30 & ASAP Time Control G/30 with a 5 second delay Entry Fee: \$19 if postmarked by 8/14 \$26 on Site Out of State \$5 off

Mixed Doubles will be available. Entry is \$5 per person. Average rating of the male and female must be less than 2000. Scores will be based on percentage of each player with respect to their section (for example if you score 3 out of 5 you get a 60; if you score 3 out of 4 you get 75, etc). The RBO has 5 rounds, the Reserve has 4 rounds and the Open has 5 rounds. Prizes: 1st \$70; 2nd \$40; 3rd 20.

Registration: Friday Quick Registration 6-7pm. All others begins at 8:30am and ends at 9:30am. Entries may be sent in advance to: IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245 or register online at <https://www.onlineregistration.cc/>
For more information: Call 319-321-5435 or mcapron243@mcchsi.com

Membership required: USCF for all sections, IASCA for Open and Reserve \$10 available on site; Other States Accepted.

Byes: Byes available Rounds 1-3 if requested prior to start of round. Rounds 4-5 only if requested prior to tournament starting.

Director team of Mark Capron, Eric Vigil, Crissy Vigil, Bill Broich and Bill Feldman. Open will follow FIDE rules, but USCF August 2017 rating list will be used for pairing purposes. Some clocks provided.

Chess Vendor on Site: There will be a Chess Vendor on Site.

Tournament Site: Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E 9th St. (I-80, SE side of Exit 242), Coralville, IA 52241 We are in the Exhibit Hall of the Conference Center for the OPEN and RESERVE. Much more spacious!! Chess rate available, \$128 only until 8/1/15 (THIS INCLUDES PARKING), rates may increase after this date. Pool, restaurant, more restaurants in walking distance. 319-688-4000

GM Timur Gareyev, GM Alex Yermolinsky, GM Bryan Smith, GM Priyadarshan Kannappan, IM Michael Brooks, IM Sean Nagle and WGM Camilla Baginskaite have committed to play.

and 2nd. **US Chess Federation (USCF) membership required.** On-Site Available. **Send Entry Fee to:** IASCA, c/o Mark Capron, 3123 Juniper Dr., Iowa City, IA 52245 or register online at www.onlineregistration.cc Additional Info: The Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, Chess rate available, \$128 (**INCLUDES PARKING**) only until 8/1/17, rates may increase after this date. Pool, restaurant, more restaurants in walking distance. 319-688- 4000.

Mixed Doubles will be available. Entry is \$5 per person. Average rating of the male and female must be less than 2000. Scores will be based on percentage of each player with respect to their section (for example if you score 3 out of 5 you get an 60; if you score 3 out of 4 you get 75, etc). The RBO has 5 rounds, the Reserve has 4 rounds and the Open has 5 rounds. Prizes: 1st \$70; 2nd \$40; 3rd 20.

Date: May 28, 2017
From: James Hodina
Subject: IASCA Scholastic Chair

Dear Iowa Chess Patrons,

After 9 years of service as the IASCA Scholastic Chair, I have chosen to step down. So, we begin the search for another interested and motivated individual to take on this valuable role to organize Iowa Scholastic Chess Championship Events for our school age chess players.

The duties of the IASCA Scholastic Chair include:

- Establishing an annual calendar for six (6) Iowa Scholastic Chess Championship Events.
- Ensuring a playing site is secured for each event.
- Appointing a Chief Tournament Director for each event.
- Procuring trophies for each event.
- Communicating tournament information and results to the Iowa scholastic chess families through email, the IASCA website, and social media.
- Managing and reporting of finances to the IASCA board for the Scholastic Chess Championship Events.

It is important to note that the Scholastic Chair does need to be a US Chess Tournament Director. For information on becoming a Tournament Director, visit: <http://www.uschess.org/docs/forms/TDCertificationRules.pdf>.

The first TD Level is "Club TD." [Registering as a Club Level TD](#) is simple and requires that the individual be a US Chess member. You must also have read and have access to the official [US Chess Federation Rulebook](#). There are many well qualified TDs in Iowa to draw upon for directing US Chess rated tournaments. As the outgoing chair, I pledge to support the incoming Scholastic Chair as requested throughout the school year. The IASCA Board, led by President Eric Vigil, will also continue to provide their support to make our scholastic chess events successful.

To guide the work, the IASCA Board has approved a detailed [Scholastic Championship Rules](#) that includes a budget proforma, trophy guidelines, and eligibility criteria for scholastic players.

The Scholastic Chair is appointed by the IASCA President. So, please contact Eric Vigil at ev-igil@gmail.com regarding any interest the Scholastic Director position. I also would be happy to answer any questions by email, phone, or in person. Please contact me at james.hodina@chessiniowa.org

It has been a pleasure to serve the Iowa State Chess Association and the scholastic chess families in our great state. It has truly been a rewarding experience that I will cherish forever.

Sincerely
Jim Hodina

p.s. I am not retiring from chess. I still plan to run chess events for the Cedar Rapids Chess Club, Prairie Chess Club, and pursue philanthropic endeavors with Chess in Iowa, Inc. including the Ice Harbor Scholastic Chess Open.

2017 IASCA Annual Meeting

March 25, 2017

Drake University Des Moines Iowa

2017 Annual meeting called to order at 1 PM by President Eric Vigil.

Secretary's report by Ron Nurmi read and approved, motion by Jim Hodina seconded Dr. Robert Keating

Treasure report given by Mark Capron, motion to approve passed.

Year beginning balance \$3776.00 ending balance \$4276.00 a surplus of \$503.00

President's report given by President Eric Vigil

Scholastic report given by Jim Hodina

The number of scholastic players was slightly down this year as compared to last year

USCF Delegate report given by Christine Denison

Stipend for Denker, Barber and National Girls Tournament of Champions was set at \$400.00 motion by Christen Denison seconded by Mark Capron and approved

Election of officers

Secretary

Nominated Jodene Kruse and Jim Freerksen
Jim Freerksen was elected

Director

Dr. Robert Keating and Bill Broich were nominated and elected by acclamation

USCF Delegate for 2018

Christine Denison elected and Robert Vance alternate delegate

Website update the yearly fee of \$117 is due a motion to pay was made and approved

New Business

finish 501-c-3 application and pay fee moved by Mark Capron seconded Dr. Robert Keating approved

Meeting adjourned

Senior Championship Goes to NM Mitch Weiss

By Eric Vigil and Mark Capron

National Master Mitch Weiss crawled out from the woodwork and played over-the-board chess for the first time in 7 years at the 2017 Iowa Senior Championship. Mitch won the event while scoring 3.5/4. I (Eric) met Mitch at Roger Gotschall's funeral a year and 1/2 ago. He saw the event online and the thought of playing chess players over 50 drew him all the way from Mason City. The top two seeds, Weiss and James Hodina met in the final round with Weiss having a half point lead due to Hodina needing to take an earlier half-point bye to attend a wedding. Their game ended in a relatively quick draw, securing Weiss the title. Congratulations Mitch and we hope to see more of you!

The event attracted 11 players with very short notice. Eric Vigil organized the event. Eric's idea was to have the players use analog clocks with no delays or increments. This allowed the new crop of young chess players to see why the rulebook talks about a flag falling. In addition, Eric paired the tournament using pairing cards and no computer. Mark Capron helped Eric with the pairings.

A Friends and Family section was held in conjunction. This drew 17 players and was won by Michael Takahashi. Michael went 3.5/4.

#	Player	Pre	Post	Pre-Q	Post-Q	1	2	3	4	T
1	Weiss, Mitchell J	2223*	2218*	2187*	2180*	W6	W7	W5	D2	3.5
2	Hodina, James	1915*	1928*	1800*	1815*	W11	W8	H0	D1	3.0
3	Gatton, Albert A	1327*	1414*	1328*	1385*	L5	W10	W11	W7	3.0
4	Gaul, Thomas	1858*	1852*	1663*	1663*	H0	H0	W6	D5	2.5
5	Rector, Richard	1629*	1654*	1508*	1539*	W3	W11	L1	D4	2.5
6	Broich, William	1400*	1411*	1347*	1359*	L1	W9	L4	W10	2.0
7	Corrigan, Erin	1526*	1500*	1443*	1416*	W9	L1	D8	L3	1.5
8	Jacobs, Steve	1400*	1407*	1200*	1223*	W10	L2	D7	U0	1.5
9	Felgar, Stan	1248*	1221*	1238*	1200*	L7	L6	L10	W11	1.0
10	Acherkan, Dmitriy	913/09	971/13	966/13	989/17	L8	L3	W9	L6	1.0
11	Johnson, Robert A	1482*	1413*	1370*	1305*	L2	L5	L3	L9	0.0



#	Player	Pre	Post	Pre-Q	Post-Q	1	2	3	4	T
1	Takahashi, Michae	1966*	1964*	1800*	1797*	W8	W10	D2	W4	3.5
2	Darr, Benjamin J	1765*	1778*	1592*	1618*	W12	W6	D1	D5	3.0
3	Vigil, Barry	1467*	1463*	1200*	1203*	W17	L5	W11	W8	3.0
4	Pregon, Joseph Je	1536*	1552*	1237*	1287*	W14	W13	D5	L1	2.5
5	Hesse, Thomas	1804*	1797*	1730*	1712*	U0	W3	D4	D2	2.0
6	Capron, Mark	1421*	1420*	1436*	1431*	W16	L2	W7	U0	2.0
7	Vigil, Jacob T	1003*	1003*	1139*	1115*	L13	W14	L6	W11	2.0
8	Alaya, Yusef Fadi	758*	762*	761*	762*	L1	W15	B0	L3	2.0
9	Brashaw, Daniel	2289*	2289*	2147*	2147*	W11	U0	U0	U0	1.0
10	Fiedorowicz, Owen	1449*	1447*	1367*	1364*	W15	L1	U0	U0	1.0
11	Acherkan, Lisa	762*	754*	653*	652*	L9	W16	L3	L7	1.0
12	Johnson, Shawn	658*	664*	630*	636*	L2	W17	U0	U0	1.0
13	Wang, Mason L	841/00	1272/02	841/00	1191/02	W7	L4	U0	U0	1.0
14	Pierce, Benjamin	512*	507*	596*	591*	L4	L7	U0	U0	0.0
15	Riley, Chris D	688/00	369/02	688/00	369/02	L10	L8	U0	U0	0.0
16	Camara, Dj Eli	687/00	361/02	687/00	262/02	L6	L11	U0	U0	0.0
17	Brewer, Robert	645/00	274/02	645/00	247/02	L3	L12	U0	U0	0.0

Gatton,Albert (1414) – Rector,Richard (1654) [A43]
(1), 10.06.2017

1.d4 e6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 d6 4.¢c3 g6 5.g3 ¤g7 6.¤d2 ¤f6 7.¤g2 ¤e7 8.e4 exd5 9.cxd5 a6 10.¤ge2 0-0 11.0-0 ¤bd7 12.¤h1 b5 13.¤c1 ¤e5 14.¤c2 ¤e8 15.f4 ¤c4 16.¤fb1 ¤g4 17.¤c1 ¤xd2 18.¤xd2 ¤b8 19.h3 ¤f2+ 0-1

Acherkan,Dmitriy (971) – Jacobs,Steve (1407)
[B13] (1), 10.06.2017

1.e4 c6 2.¢f3 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.d4 ¤f6 5.¤d3 ¤g4 6.h3 ¤xf3 7.¤xf3 e6 8.0-0 ¤e7 9.b3 0-0 10.¤g3 ¤h8 11.¤a3 ¤bd7 12.¤xe7 ¤xe7 13.¤d2 ¤ac8 14.a3 ¤h5 15.¤g4 g6 16.¢f3 f5 17.¤g5 ¤xg5 18.¤g5 ¤fe8 19.¤b5 ¤c7 20.¤ae1 a6 21.¤xd7 ¤xd7 22.¤xe6 ¤de7 23.¢c7 ¤xe1 24.¢xe8 ¤xe8 25.c3 b5 26.g3 ¤f6 27.f3 ¤g7 28.¤f2 ¤f7 29.¤e1 ¤xe1 20.¤xe1 ¤e6 31.¤e2 g5 32.¤e2 ¤h5 33.g4 ¤f4+ 34.¤e3 ¤xh3 35.gxf5+ ¤xf5 0-1

Broich,William (1411) – Weiss,Mitch (2223) [A80]
(1), 10.06.2017

1.d4 e6 2.¤f4 f5 3.¢f3 ¤f6 4.e3 d5 5.c3 ¤d6 6.¤e5 ¤bd7 7.¤d2 ¤xc5 8.dxe5 ¤e4 9.¢f3 0-0 10.¤e2 ¤e7 11.¤d4 g5 12.g3 gx¢4 13.gxf4 ¤h4 14.¤g1+ ¤h8 15.¤f1 ¤b6 16.¢f3 ¤e7 17.¤c2 ¤d7 18.0-0-0 c5 19.¤b1 ¤g8 20.¤d2 ¤g2 21.¤xe4 fxe4 18.h3 ¤ag8 23.¤g4 ¤h4 24.¤e2 a6 25.¤e1 h5 26.¤e2 ¤h2 27.¤d2 ¤gg2 28.c4 ¤xh3 29.¤c2 ¤f5 30.f3 exf3+ 31.¤c1 ¤xc2 32.¤xe2 ¤xe2 33.¤h4 ¤c2# 0-1

Hodina,James (1928) – Johnson,Robert (1413)
[D76] (1), 10.06.2017

1.¢f3 ¤f6 2.d4 d5 3.c4 g6 4.g3 ¤g7 5.¤g2 0-0 6.0-0 ¤c6 7.cxd5 ¤xd5 8.e4 ¤b6 9.d5 ¤a5 10.¢c3 ¤ac4 11.a3 e6 12.¤c2 exd5 13.¢xd5 ¤xd5 14.¤xc4 ¤b6 15.¤c2 c6 16.¤g5 ¤e8 17.¤e3 ¤e6 18.¤c5 ¤c4 19.¤ab1 ¤c8 20.¤xf8 ¤xf8 21.¤g5 ¤d6 22.¤c5 ¤d7 1-0

Felgar,Stan (1500) – Corrigan,Erin (1221) [E10] (1),
10.06.2017

1.c4 ¤f6 2.¢c3 e6 3.¢f3 ¤c6 4.d4 g6 5.e3 ¤g7 6.¤e2 0-0 7.0-0 a6 8.a3 d6 9.¤b1 h6 10.b4 b6 11.d5 exd5 12.¢xd5 ¤f5 13.¤d3 ¤g4 14.¤b2 ¤xd5 15.¤xg7 ¤xg7 16.cxd5 ¤e5 17.¤e2 ¤f5 18.¤c1 ¤xf3+ 19.¤xf3 ¤d7 20.¤c2 ¤c8 21.¤e2 ¤g5 22.¤fd1 b5 23.¤f3 h5 24.¤d2 f5 25.¤c3 h4 26.¤dc1 f4 27.exf4 ¤d8 28.¤d4+ ¤h7 29.g3 h3 30.¤e4 ¤f5 31.¤xf5 gx¢5 32.¤c6 ¤e7 33.¤xa6 ¤f7 34.¤xd6 ¤e7 35.¤dc6 ¤fe8 36.d6 ¤d7 37.¤xc7 ¤xc7 38.¤xc7 ¤xc7 39.dxc7 1-0

Weiss,Mitch (2223) – Corrigan,Erin (1500) [B50] (2),
10.06.2017

1.e4 c5 2.¢f3 d6 3.c3 ¤f6 4.¤e2 e5 5.d3 ¤e7 6.0-0 7.¢bd2 ¤d7 8.b3 a6 9.¤b2 b5 10.d4 ¤c6 11.¤e1 ¤e8 12.¤d3 ¤f8 13.¢f1 ¤g4 14.dxc5 dxc5 15.h3 ¤h5 16.¢g3 ¤g6 17.¤e2 ¤c7 18.a4 bxa4 19.¤xa4 ¤b6 20.¤d2 a5 21.¤ea1 ¤ab8 22.¤c2 ¤b7 23.¢c4 h6 24.¢xa5 ¤xa5 25.¤xa5 ¤b6 26.¤c1 ¤e6 27.¤e3 ¤ec8 28.¤a6 ¤c6 29.¤xc6 ¤xc6 30.¤c4 ¤b5 31.¤xb5 ¤xb5 32.¤a8 ¤d7 33.¢f1 ¤b7 34.¤d2 f6 35.¤d8 ¤f7 36.¤d3 g5 37.¤c4 ¤xc4 38.¤xc4 ¤f7 39.¤d2 ¤e7 40.¤a8 ¤d6 41.¢f1 ¤b8 42.¤a6 ¤b6 43.¤a7 1-0

Gatton,Arnie (1327) – Corrigan,Erin (1526) [A25]
(4), 10.06.2017

1.c4 e5 2.¢c3 ¤f6 3.g3 ¤c6 4.¤g2 ¤e7 5.e4 0-0 6.¤ge2 d6 7.0-0 ¤d7 8.d3 ¤c8 9.f4 ¤h3 10.fxe5 dxe5 11.¤g5 ¤xg2 12.¤xg2 h6 13.¤e6 ¤xf6 14.¤d5 ¤d8 15.b4 ¤e7 16.¤ec3 ¤xd5 17.¢xd5 c6 18.¢e3 g6 19.h4 h5 20.¤f3 ¤e6 21.c5 ¤e7 22.a3 ¤ad8 23.¤ad1 ¤d7 24.¢c4 ¤fd8 25.¤h2 ¤g7 26.¢e3 ¤xd3 27.¤xd3 ¤xd3 28.¢f5+ gx¢5 29.¤xd3 fxe4 30.¤e3 f6 31.¤f2 ¤d8 32.¤d2 ¤e7 33.¤xe4 a5 34.¤e2 ¤g6 35.¤e4+ ¤g7 36.¤f2 axb4 37.axb4 b6 38.cxb6 ¤xb4 39.¤a2 ¤d6 40.b7 ¤b8 41.¤a6 ¤d7 1-1

Continued on Page 13

SPOTLIGHT ON: Jim Freerksen

How long have you been playing chess and how did you start? I learned in 1st grade which was in 1993 for me.

What draws you to chess? Of course what I like about chess is the ways in which it has rules and guidelines that can be beautifully broken, the endless potential metaphors, the plethora of theories and styles that are somehow transferable, relatable, and relevant to life as they are to their particular games. What draws me to chess though is that I think it gives me time and space to be creative, competitive, and to push myself all while forgetting about the rest of the world.

What was the first OTB tournament you played in and how did you do? 2002 IOWA GRADES CHAMPIONSHIP I lost my first round and ended up getting the second place trophy on tie breaks. I was hooked.

Do you play chess on the Internet? Yes I play on Chess.com

What do you think of Chess on the Internet? I enjoy it and think it is good for the game.

What has been your greatest success in chess? As a player, winning the Reserve section of the Governors Cup in 2003 at age 16 was probably one of my favorite moments in chess. Only two weeks prior I was 4-0 going into the final round of the Chicago class section C and choked; the \$1000 first place prize that was within reach became an \$83 five way tie for 3rd.

Do you play Correspondence Chess?
No

What other hobbies do you have? Gardening and Tiny house living.

Tell us some about your family?
My wife, Katie, and I have been married 7

years and are high school sweethearts. We have a 1 ½ year old son named Leviathan. Currently we are finishing our tiny house and starting an Urban farm while coaching chess at some local schools. Katie has a BS in animal ecology from ISU and I am a senior at Drake finishing up my BA in Law, Politics, and Society.

What is your favorite quotation?

Anyone can make a dollar, not everyone makes a difference! – Tom Brokaw

Do you have a favorite chess book? If I had to pick. The Amateur's mind by Jeremy Silman

What type of chess library do you have? About 20 books. Jeremy Silman and Pandolfini make up close to half of the titles.

Do you have a favorite chess opening?
I like the Yugoslav attack against the Sicilian Dragon. Those games are fun. I'll play either side depending on my mood but I prefer white.

Do you have a favorite chess ending?
The one where I mess up really bad but the other player messes up even worse.

Tell us a bit about how you got the Drake Chess Club going?

Somehow I overheard a conversation in the hallway one day about starting a chess club. Immediately I approached, reached behind my back, pulled out my chess mat from my book bag, and said "did somebody say chess club?." An official club formed the following week. The club took a little bit to get going but did a lot this past year by hosting the class and closed, a mini-qualifier tournament, and our first rated championship that had 12 participants. I was the President the past two years and the VP before that and am now happy to report that the lower class has taken over the leadership roles. I would like to thank Tim McEntee for coaching

and assisting the Drake Chess Club this past year; he has been essential to inspiring and aiding young minds at our chess club. Look for this club to continue to grow, compete, and host events this coming academic year and beyond.

Do you have a favorite movie?

Fight Club Not for the fighting as much as for the righteous rejection of societal norms.

What is your favorite Food?

Chinese food, Sesame Chicken

What is your favorite Color?

I'm colorblind so when people ask me this I just tell them I simply do not care for colors except usually with more colorful language.

Any advice you would want to give to new players of the game?

You're going to lose. It's okay. Try to have fun but it is important to never give up.

Anything else you would like to add?

I don't really have a lot of favorite chess things as I guess most typical players might. For me chess means something different. It meant a way to stay in school and out of prison. Growing up, my home life was not a healthy environment. Far to often I was in trouble at school, failed classes, had poor attendance, and was in trouble with the police. In 10th grade all the people I considered my friends dropped out of school. Luckily for me there was a chess club. I credit chess and the people who organized around youth chess programs as what helped me through those years and provided me with a strong sense of community. Through my high school chess club, I met my wife and made many close friends who are still an important part of my day-to-day life. I know first hand the impact that the game itself and a vibrant chess community can have on young minds. Finally I would like to thank those who have ever organized or worked with kids chess programs, parents who have tirelessly traveled to tournaments that they may never understand, and anyone who has taken the time to simply play chess with a kid at some point.

Continued from page 11

Weiss,Mitch – Hodina,James [A04]

(4), 10.06.2017

1.♟f3 c5 2.♞b3 ♘c6 3.♞b2 ♟f6 4.e3 d6 5.♞b5 ♟d7 6.0-0 a6 7.♞xc6 ♞xc6 8.c4 e6 9.d4 ♟e7 10.dxc5 dxc5 11.♟e5 1/2-1/2

Wang,Mason (1271) – Pregon,Joseph (1521) [B22] (2), 10.06.2017

1.e4 c5 2.♟f3 ♘c6 3.c3 d6 4.d4 cxd4 5.cxd4 ♟f6 6.♘c3 g6 7.♞c4 ♟g7 8.0-0 0-0 9.♟g5 a6 10.a4 ♞b8 11.♞d2 ♟g4 12.♟e2 ♞b6 13.d5 ♞xf3 14.♞xf3 ♟e5 15.♞a3 ♘c4 16.♞f4 ♘a3 17.bxa3 ♞a5 18.e5 dxe5 19.♞xe5 ♞fe8 20.♞c1 ♞bc8 21.h4 ♘xd5 22.♞e3 ♘xc3 23.♞xc3 ♞xc3 24.♞a7 ♞e1+ 25.♞h2 ♟e5+ 26.g3 ♞c1 27.♞xb7 ♞xf2+ 28.♞h3 0-1

Darr,Ben (1765) – Hesse,Tom (1804) [B11] (4), 10.06.2017

1.e4 c6 2.♘c3 d5 3.♟f3 dxe4 4.♘xe4 ♟f5 5.♟g3 ♟g6 6.h4 h6 7.♟e5 ♞h7 8.♞h5 g6 9.♞c4 e6 10.♞e2 ♞e7 11.d4 ♟f6 12.♟d2 ♟bd7 13.♞b3 ♟g7 14.a3 a5 15.c4 ♘xe5 16.dxe5 ♟d7 17.♞c3 g5 18.♟h5 ♞g8 19.♘xg7+ ♞xg7 20.hxg5 ♞xg5 21.g3 ♘c5 22.♟a2 ♘d3+ 23.♞f1 ♟f4 24.♟d2 ♘xe2 25.♞xg5 ♘xg3+ 26.fxg3 ♞xg5 27.♞xh6 ♟d3+ 28.♞f2 ♞e7 29.♞e1 ♞ag8 30.♞e3 ♞c2 1/2-1/2

Pregon,Joseph (1536) – Gaul,Tom (1858) [C01] Xtra Game Iowa City, 10.06.2017

1.e4 e6 2.♟f3 d5 3.exd5 exd5 4.d4 ♟d6 5.♟d3 ♟e7 6.♟g5 f6 7.♞h4 ♟a6 8.♞xa6 bxa6 9.♟g3 0-0 10.0-0 ♞b8 11.b3 ♟g4 12.♞d3 ♞b6 13.c4 dxc4 14.♞xc4+ ♞h8 15.♟bd2 ♟g6 16.♞c2 ♟d7 17.♞ac1 ♟f4 18.♞xf4 ♘xf4 19.♞fe1 c6 20.♞e4 g5 21.♞e3 ♞bb8 22.♟f1 ♞be8 23.♞d2 ♞xf3 0-1

Dan Brashaw Wins a Three-peat!! the Iowa State Chess Championship.

By Mark Capron and Eric Vigil

In a titanic struggle, Dan Brashaw held off Joseph Wan and James Neal with 4 points to 3.5 for Joseph's and James'. Dan has won or tied for first in this event now 4 times, the last three in a row! This year's closed may have been the strongest in Iowa's history with 4 players over 2200 and one 2100. Dan ties the likes of Tim McEntee (4) and Pete Karagianis (4) for number of titles. The next hurdle would be 6 titles where players such as Mitch Weiss, Kevin Burnett, W.S. Gilman and Dan Reynolds sit. The players who have won the title most (since inception in the year 1900) are Kenneth Davenport and John Penquite, both winning 8 times.

#	Player	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	5	T
1	Brashaw, Daniel	2261*	2274*	W6	W3	D2	W5	D4	4.0
2	Wan, Joseph Cheng	2238*	2247*	D4	W5	D1	W6	D3	3.5
3	Neal, James Alex,	2229*	2239*	W5	L1	W6	W4	D2	3.5
4	Keating, Robert F	2138*	2124*	D2	L6	D5	L3	D1	1.5
5	Takahashi, Michae	1940*	1956*	L3	L2	D4	L1	W6	1.5
6	Kosokin, Valeriy	2223*	2191*	L1	W4	L3	L2	L5	1.0

Round 1:

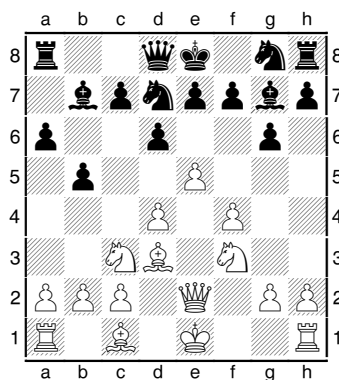
The pairings were Wan-Keating, Takahashi-Neal, and Brashaw-Kosokin.

Annotations by Bob Keating:

Wan, Joseph (2238) - Keating, Robert (2138) [B06] (1), 25.03.2017

This would be my 9th consecutive IA Closed, starting in 2009. Hopefully, I'll be able to make it 10 even next year. This year's event would be the strongest one I've played in, featuring 5 masters, 4 with ratings over 2200, and an average pre-tournament rating of 2171.5. Being outrated by ~100 points by 4 of the players, my expectations were fairly modest. Admittedly, I've spent very little time on chess study as my family has grown. My realistic goal for the tournament was to just play competitively and not make simple mistakes. 1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♗g7 3.♟c3 d6 4.f4 [Joseph chooses to play the Austrian attack, which is the most overtly aggressive way to play against the Modern Defense.] 4...a6 5.♟f3 b5 6.♗d3 ♟d7 7.e5 ♗b7

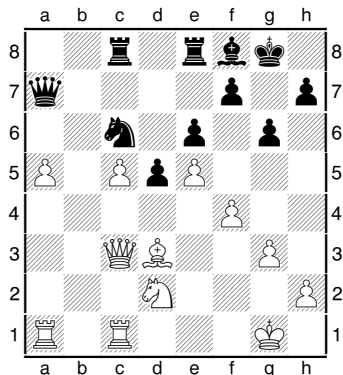
[Having long since forgotten my anti-Austrian repertoire, I decided to play what seemed reasonable within the scope of my ability to calculate.] 8.♞e2 [Joseph had played very quickly to this point, and I wanted to get out of his opening preparation as soon as reasonable. I suspected 8...c5 or 8...♟h6 would be the "book"



moves and started searching for alternatives. The move 8.♞e2 was new to me - ♗e3, ♗e4, and 0-0 seemed more mainline.

The placement of White's queen on the same file as my king was uncomfortable since e6 does not lose a pawn and exd6 can be played in lines where Black plays c5.] **8...♟b6!** [This is probably more dubious than interesting, although it neutralizes both e6 and exd6 from White. 8...♟h6 9.a4 b4 10.♟e4 c5 11.e6 fxe6 12.♟eg5 ♟d5 13.♟xe6 ♟xe6 14.♟xe6 cxd4 is apparently just slightly better for White, albeit quite messy for Black.; 8...c5 9.♟g5 (9.exd6 ♟gf6 10.dxe7 ♟xe7 11.♟xe7+ ♟xe7 12.0-0 ♟he8) 9...cxd4 10.e6 f5 11.exd7+ ♟xd7 12.♟d1 e5 13.fxe5 dxe5 14.a4± and I suspect the extra White piece will ultimately prevail.] **9.a4** [White can also try 9.f5.] **9...b4** **10.♟e4 e6** [Preparing to close the center with the idea of using the c5 pawn break at some point later in the game.] **11.♟d2** [11.a5! would make things much more difficult for Black. 11...♟d7 12.♟d2 (12.exd6 ♟gf6) 12...♟xe4 13.♟xe4 d5 14.♟d3 c5 15.dxc5 ♟xc5 16.♟xb4 ♟xd3+ 17.♟xd3 ♟f8] **11...♟xe4** **12.♟xe4 d5** **13.♟d3 a5** **14.♟b5+ ♟d7** [White has a nice initiative, although Black's position seems solid enough for the moment.] **15.c3** [15.♟c6 doesn't really accomplish much. 15...♟a7 16.♟b5 ♟e7] **15...bxc3** **16.♟xc3 ♟e7** **17.b4 c6** **18.♟d3 axb4** **19.♟xb4 0-0** **20.0-0** [With fairly direct play, White has gained the advantage by virtue of a strong outside passed pawn, more space, and more piece activity, while Black is saddled with a weak pawn on c6, cramped position, and relatively inactive pieces.] **20...♟e8** [20...c5!? could have been played right away, offering the weak pawn for relief from a cramped inactive position. 21.dxc5 ♟c6 22.♟a3 ♟xa4 23.♟b5 ♟e4 24.♟d2 Black's ♟e4 seems to be quite exposed and vulnerable to attack, while his knights will be clumsily placed in a defensive posture.] **21.♟fc1 ♟h6** [provoking a weakening of White's kingside in order to create some possibility for counterplay there later.] **22.g3 ♟b6** **23.♟d2 ♟ac8** [23...♟f5 would have been a more precise move order, discouraging White from playing ♟d6. 23...♟f5 24.♟c3 ♟ac8 25.a5 ♟a7] **24.a5 ♟a7** **25.♟c3 ♟f8** [Black could also play 25...c5 right away

with play similar to the game.] **26.♟d2 c5!** [Giving up the pawn for positional relief. 26...♟f5 was also playable. 26...♟f5 27.♟xf8 ♟xf8 28.♟xf5 exf5 29.♟b3 ♟a6±] **27.♟xc5 ♟xc5** **28.dxc5 ♟c6** [White is clearly better, although how to win is not entirely clear. Getting a piece to b6 seems desirable; however, Black's attacks



on a5 and c5 are annoying for White to deal with.] **29.a6?** [This seems logical in that Black's attack on a5 is no longer, the ♟a6 is strongly defended by White's unopposed bishop, and b7 is now a potential point of entry for White's pieces. Unfortunately, with Black's next move, White's advantage completely disappears.] **29...♟b4!=** [I was pretty short on time (down to around 7 minutes), which would be a recurring issue for me in this tournament, and this move popped into my head almost immediately after White made his move. The triple attack and absolute pin against the ♟c5 coupled with the tactics of discovered attack and forking checks render the knight immune from capture. I suppose it would sound good to say that I had carefully considered several candidate moves and calculated the consequences of each in turn, but the fact of the matter is that I had no time for such analysis, immediately was attracted to ♟b4, and quickly calculated the consequences of ♟xb4 along with White bishop moves like ♟b5 in order to convince myself that ♟b4 worked. Chalk one up to chess intuition.] **30.♟b3** [I briefly considered this move in

my calculations but determined that it did not matter since the series of upcoming exchanges equalize the position. This actually turns out to be White's only move.

30.♖g2 ♖xc5 31.♘d4 ♖a8 32.♖cb1 (32.♗b3 ♖xc1 33.♗a7 ♖c2+! 34.♗xc2 ♖xa7 35.♗d1 ♖xa6) 32...♗c2?; 30.♗b5 ♖xc5-+; 30.♗xb4 might not be as bad as I originally thought.

30...♖xc5□ 31.♗xc5□ ♗xc5+ 32.♖g2 ♗e3? The ♗a6 remains solid in its advance location, and the limited number of Black pieces suggest that he may not be able to mount an attack while simultaneously keeping the ♗a6 restrained.] 30...♗x♖d3

31.♗x♖d3 ♗xc5+ 32.♗xc5 ♖xc5 33.♖g2 [Although completely equal, I still sensed some potential danger from the advanced a-pawn.] 33...♖a8 34.♖xc5 ♗xc5 35.♖h3 [This makes Black's next move possible since the king will be out of the "square" of the pawn that will appear on c4.] 35...♗c4 36.♗xc4 [36.♗a3 ♖e2 37.a7 (37.♖a2 ♗f1+ 38.♖h4 ♗d1 39.♖h3=) 37...d4 38.♗d6 ♗e4 39.♗b4 ♗f5+ 40.♖g2 ♗e4+=] 36...dxc4 37.♖g4 c3□ 38.♖f3 c2□ 39.♖c1 ♖xa6 40.♖xc2 ♖a5 [I offered a draw here, but White, perhaps in some

result. Although I was outplayed in the opening, I at least managed to avoid more critical blunders, played a beneficial pawn sacrifice, and spotted my one and only chance at redemption when the opportunity arose.] ½-½

Takahashi,Michael (1940) - Neal,James (2229) [B23]

(1), 25.03.2017

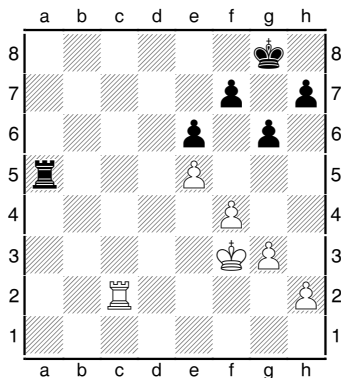
1.e4 c5 2.♗c3 a6 3.g3 b5 4.♗g2 ♗b7 5.d3 e6 6.♗e3 ♗f6 7.h3 ♗e7 8.f4 d5 9.e5 ♗fd7 10.♗ce2 ♗c7 11.d4 ♗c6 12.♗f3 cxd4 13.♗exd4 ♗c5 14.0-0 0-0 15.g4 f6 16.♗xc6 ♗xc6 17.♗d4 ♗e4 18.♗d2 fxg4 19.♗xe5 ♗b6+ 20.♗h2 ♗d6 21.♗f3 ♗c4 22.♗d4 ♗c7 23.♗e5 ♗d6 24.♗g5 ♗xe5 25.♗xe6 ♗d6 26.♗xf8 ♗xf4+ 27.♗h1 ♗e3 28.♗d3 ♖xf8 29.♗f2 ♗xg2 30.♗xg2 d4+ 31.♗f1 ♗e3 32.♖xf8+ ♗xf8+ 33.♗f5 ♗xf5+ 34.gxf5 ♗e4 35.♖e2 ♗xc2 36.♗f1 0-1

Annotations by Dan Brashaw

Brashaw,Daniel (2261) - Kosokin,Valeriy (2223) [B81]

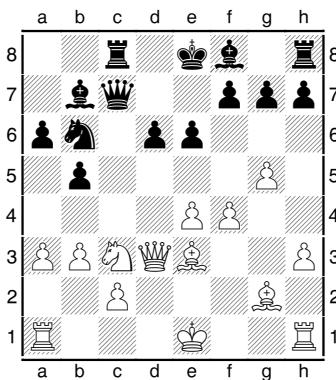
(1), 25.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 a6 [This is the third time I've played Valeriy from the white side, and the third time we've reached this position. While I did luck out in the first two games playing a Yugoslav Attack style setup, I didn't accomplish that much in the opening and opted for something more offbeat. I figured he wouldn't have prepared for this anyway, and I tried to remember his common replies as black in my preparation.] 6.h3? [The route our previous games have traveled 6.f3 e6 7.♗e3 b5 8.♗d2 ♗bd7 9.0-0-0 ♗b7 10.g4 ♗b6] 6...e6 7.g4 b5!? [More typical is for black to immediately play for the center while white has wasted a few tempi with h3] g4. 7...d5 8.exd5 ♗xd5 9.♗de2 The d4 knight is brought back in efforts to reroute to g3 and to support c3 in the meantime. (9.♗g2! ♗xc3 10.bxc3 ♗c7) 9...♗b4 10.♗g2 0-0 11.0-0 ♗xc3 12.♗xc3 ♗c7 13.♗f3 White offers up doubled pawns



disbelief at how his earlier advantage so quickly vanished after a single inaccuracy, wished to play on.] 41.♖e4 ♖a4+ 42.♖e3 ♗g7 43.♗d2 h5 44.h3 ♖f8 [Although down to just a couple minutes plus increment, I felt comfortable that I could hold the draw without any difficulty.] 45.♖f3 ♖a3+ 46.♖g2 ♖e7 47.♖b2 ♗d3 48.g4 hxg4 49.hxg4 ♖e3 50.♖f2 ♖h3 51.♖b7+ ♖e8 52.♖b8+ [White finally accepted the

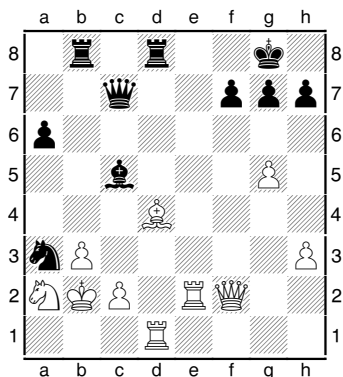
in exchange for the bishop pair and a small lead in development] **8.♔g2 ♚b7 9.a3** [At this point I'm a fish out of water and became gravely concerned at the prospects of black being able to play d5 in concert with b4. I didn't yet want to commit my queen to the defense of the e4 pawn, especially when e2 is the only reasonable square. ♜d3 often runs into ♜d7-c5 manœuvres.] **9...♞c7 10.♙e3 ♜c6 11.♜xc6 ♙xc6** [After the game I felt that immediately expanding was not in white's best interest since I hadn't completed development or castled. The space advantage was nice, but black didn't have any fixture upon which to attack.] **12.g5 ♜d7 13.f4 ♜b6** [Black's play becomes seemingly simple. I began to use a lot of time to decide how to continue.] **14.b3?!** [Better probably is to bring the bishop back and then expel the knight. It felt awfully wasteful of me playing ♙e3 and I was seriously concerned about d5 being played in all the variations. **14.♜d3 ♜c4 15.♙c1 ♖d8 16.b3 (16.0-0 d5 17.e5 ♙c5+ 18.♗h2 d4 19.♜e4 ♜e3?) 16...♜b6 17.♙e3 d5** The computer evaluates this as equal, but it feels like black's solid position is easier to play. I tried to throw in 0-0 in variations, but the computer prefers black to play d5 whenever this happens.] **14...♙b7 15.♞d3** [White is seemingly behind a tempo to defend c3 and c2, but b6 is hanging to compensate.] **15...♞c8**



16.0-0-0 [I spent the longest amount time

of any move in the tournament here. It was difficult to calculate the continuations.] **16...d5!** [Generally if you're playing the Sicilian as black, and you can safely play d5, you probably should.] **17.♞b2** [My calculations on O-O-O were mostly spent on this ♙x3+! move.] **17...b4** [This move probably deserves a (?), since it's much weaker than the text move of ♙x3. Not only does it not attack as strongly, but it also relieved me of the worries that I was to be mated shortly. **17...♙x3+ 18.♞x3 b4+ 19.♞b2 (19.♞xb4?? ♞e7+ 20.♗a5 ♞a3+ 21.♞xb6 0-0** I was sure that white's king is to be entombed soon. Black is mating shortly.) **19...bxc3+ 20.♞b1-+** I felt that this was going to be the continuation of the game after O-O-O. Of course black is better, but I would bank on my bishop pair to defend the dark square weaknesses around my king and hopefully recoup the c3 pawn in the long run. The engine suggests white is just lost long term.] **18.axb4 ♙xb4 19.♙d4 0-0 20.♜a2?** [Becoming short on time and failing to consider further options, I immediately played this hoping that the knight would support some of the dark square weaknesses on c3/b4. Unfortunately this just drives black's bishop towards better activity of attacking my weak kingside pawns.] **20...dxe4 [20...♙c5!** Getting rid of white's dark-square bishop should be of immediate importance. The queenside is too weak. **21.♙xc5 ♞xc5 22.♗he1 a5** Jettisoning black's single pawn island to create further problems with white's king safety. Black has a much easier game and better position.] **21.♙xe4 ♙xe4 22.♞xe4 ♙d6 23.♗he1** [I saw nothing crucially wrong with this move, since it aims to defend f4 by tactics, but ♖b8 is difficult to meet.] **23...♖b8 [23...♙xf4?? 24.♙xb6] 24.f5 exf5 25.♞xf5** [How nice that I spent all that time in the opening phase moving my kingside pawns just to trade them later!] **25...♖fd8 26.♖e2?** [I saw future issues with black being able to play ♜c4-a3, attacking c2. It's difficult for white to defend c2 with the d1 rook, since the dark square bishop can

always poke it from its defensive home. Both players were becoming critically short on time with less than 5 minutes a piece.] 26...♖c5 [26...♖c4+ 27.♗a1 ♕e5! 28.♗f2 ♖a3 The hanging d1 rook, the underdefended c2 pawn ensure white is doomed. -+] 27.♗f2 ♖c4+ 28.♗a1 ♖a3 29.♗b2



♖b5?? [Losing the thread and immediately losing by tactics. 29...♖f8 30.♖d3] 30.♖xc5 [Black resigns in view of 30...♖xd1 31. ♖e7 forking the ♗c7 and idea of ♗xf7+ and ♗xg7# idea. Going forward I'll have to remember that this opening complex for white is much more complicated than "grab space on the kingside, hope black castles into the attack and gets mated."] 1-0

Round 2 featured Keating-Kosokin, Neal-Brashaw, Wan-Takahashi

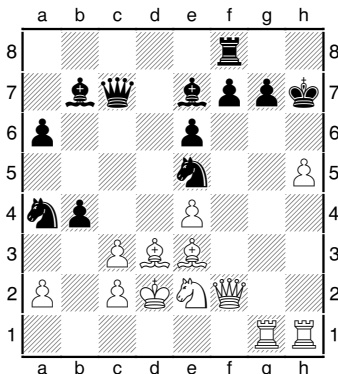
Annotations by Bob Keating

Keating, Robert (2138) – Kosokin, Valeriy (2223) [B80]
(2), 25.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.♖f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♖xd4 ♖f6 5.♖c3 a6 6.♖e3 e6 7.f3 b5 [Valeriy and I had started this way in the Des Moines Summer Open. I might have benefitted from match preparation in this instance, had I found the time to do so. All I recalled is that I castled early and struggled from worrying too much about preserving

my dark squared bishop.] 8.♗d2 ♖bd7 9.g4 [This is the main line for this variation.] 9...♖b6 [One of two main options, the most common being 9...h6.] 10.♗f2?! [Apparently, White would do well to play a4. All I knew was that White should delay castling for a bit, given that Black's king is still a couple moves from finding his own shelter.] 10...♖fd7 11.h4 [Again, a4 would have been best.] 11...♖b7 12.0-0-0 [Having discarded a4, I decided castling queenside would be necessary sooner or later. Perhaps, I could have continued on the kingside with g5 and h5 until pressed into castling by the position. 12.g5 b4 13.♖ce2 ♗c7 14.0-0-0 d5 15.e5 ♖c4 16.f4?] 12...♖c8 13.♖d3 [Although not quite typical for the English Attack, I felt this move was indicated by the position. 13.♗b1 could be considered; however, I wanted to retain the option of evacuating my king via d2 should Black play the exchange sacrifice on c3. I also considered more defensive moves such as ♖e2 (either knight) but did not want to get trapped into passive play.] 13...♖e7 14.g5 [I was determined to stay up-tempo in my kingside attack.] 14...♖xc3 15.bxc3 ♗c7 16.h5 [The ♖c3 will be taken by Black sooner or later, so I did not feel it would be profitable to defend it without some secondary gain from doing so.] 16...d5 [This is a logical move that Black always wants to play in the Sicilian. ♖a3 can now be played with tempo, and White cannot play e5 as he would normally do. 16...♗xc3 17.♖b3 ♗c7 18.g6?] 17.♖e2 [Not so much to defend c3 as to avoid allowing Black to play e5 and d4 with tempo.] 17...♖a4 18.♗d2?! [I felt my king would be safer among its pieces and where it would have more potential escape squares. My computer still likes ♗b1, possibly with the idea of hiding in the corner when the attack comes. 18.g6! fxc6 19.hxc6 h6 20.♗h2?] 18...0-0 [It seemed inevitable that Black would have to castle to involve his rook in the game.] 19.g6!? [I was not sure how this would turn out, but it seemed to be the logical extension of

White's play to try to do something to open lines on the kingside.] **19...dxe4** [Komodo likes 19...fxg6 better. Now, the position is considered equal, although not necessarily drawish. 19...fxg6 20.hxg6 h6 21.♖g3!? Still up an exchange, White does not fear going into the endgame.] **20.gxh7+ ♜xh7** [20...♜h8 21.fxe4 ♜dc5 22.♖g3=] **21.fxe4 ♜e5 22.♞dgl b4** [This is the most critical position of the game for



me. I felt that White should have a "killer blow" somewhere, with the significantly unbalanced force in White's favor on the kingside. I was low on time and spent much of it on moves like ♖xg7, ♖g6, ♖g2, ♖g3, and h6. I briefly looked at ♞d4 but decided it was not forcing enough. Finally, I settled on ♖f4, after which ♖xg7 is a lethal threat. Unfortunately, I missed my one and only chance for a winning advantage.] **23.♖f4** [23.♞d4! This was the killer move. I missed it because it is not as loud a move as checks or captures, and the depths of its threats were too hard for me to calculate with limited time. 23...f6 (23...♞f6 24.h6+; 23...♞d6 24.♖xg7+ ♖xg7 25.♖g1+ ♜h7 26.♖f6 ♖g8 27.♖xg8 ♖xg8 28.h6+) 24.♖g2 bxc3+ 25.♖e1 ♞c5 (25...♜xd3+ 26.cxd3 ♞d6 27.♖g6+ ♜g8 28.h6 c2 29.hxg7+) 26.♞xe5 fxe5 27.♖g6+ ♜g8 28.♞f1 ♖b6 29.♖xf8+ ♞xf8 30.♞f1+; 23.♖g3 bxc3+ 24.♖e1 ♞f6 25.♖f1=] **23...bxc3+ 24.♖e1 ♜xd3+ 25.cxd3 ♖xf4** [The danger to both kings will be over once White recaptures, and the ma-

terial imbalance is compensated for Black with active pieces, an advanced passed pawn, and multiple White weaknesses.] **26.♜xf4** [I chose this capture to be able to protect d3, although ♞xf4 would have also been fine. From here on, I played in time pressure and would ultimately make a series of mistakes that cost me the game.] **26...♞d8 27.♖e2 e5 28.♜h3** [28.h6! g5 29.♜d5 ♞xd5 30.exd5 f6 31.♖g4 ♜b2 32.♞c1 ♖xd5 33.♖xc3 ♖xh6 34.♖gl±] **28...a5 29.♜f2** [29.♜g5!+ ♞xg5 30.♖xg5 c2 31.♖hg1 ♜c3+ 32.♖f3 ♞a6 (32...♖xd3?? 33.♖xg7+ ♜h8 34.♖g8+ ♜h7 35.♖lg7*) 33.♖xg7+ ♜h8 34.♖xf7 ♞xd3 35.♖g5 ♞xe4+ 36.♖g4±] **29...♞a6 30.♞c1 ♞b4 31.♞h3 ♜b2 32.♞b6 ♜d6 33.♞c7 ♞e6 34.a3 ♞xa3 32.♖xc3 ♞b4 36.♞b3!±** [36.♞c1=] **36...♜a4 37.♜d1? f6 38.♞xa5?** [This is based on faulty calculation and cost me a piece.] **38...♞xa5 39.♞a3 ♞b5** [This is what I missed.] **40.♜e3 ♜c3+ 41.♖f3 ♞a6 42.♜c4 ♞b4** [Black's last few moves were inaccurate, and White has a chance to regain material; however, I lacked the time to think things through.] **43.♖xa6?** [43.♞b3! ♞d7 44.♞h1 ♞a5 (44...♜a2 45.♞b2 f5 46.h6 fxe4+ 47.dxe4 ♖f6+ 48.♜g2 ♖g6+ 49.♜f2 ♞c5+ 50.♜e1 ♜b4 51.♜xe5 ♞d6 52.hxg7+ ♖xg7 53.♖g2+ ♖f6 54.♜xd7+ ♖xd7 55.♞h6+ ♜e5 56.♞h5+ ♜xe4 57.♖xc5=) 45.♞a1 ♜a4 46.♜xa5 ♖xa5 47.♖b4±] **43...♞xa6** [The game probably cannot be salvaged by White at this point. Nonetheless, more mistakes help to make things easy for Black.] **44.♞h1? ♜xe4 45.dxe4 ♞xc4 46.♞c1 ♜f7 47.♞b1? ♞d2** [47...♞xh5+ 48.♜g2 ♞d2+] **48.♞h1 ♖h6 49.♜g4 ♞c6+ 50.♜f3 ♜f4 51.♞h4 ♜g5 52.♞h1 ♞g4+ 53.♜f2 ♞xh5 54.♖gl+ ♞g4 55.♖g2 g6 56.♖gl f5 57.exf5 gxf5** [An unfortunate loss. Time pressure and missed opportunities were an apparent theme of the tournament for me. I played into an opening I did not really know, but I had a chance to gain a big advantage at a time when I did not have the ability or time for the necessary calculation to realize it. In the ending, a series of mistakes and a lack of appreciation of the need to continue playing on the kingside led to my

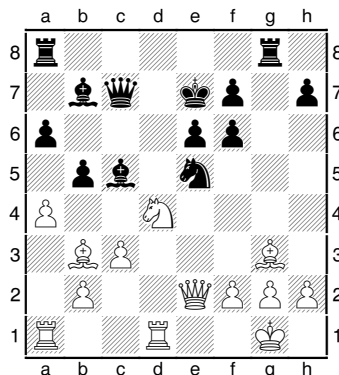
downfall.] **0-1**

Annotations by Joseph Wan

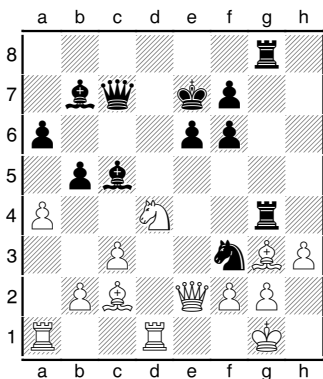
Wan, Joseph (2238) – Takahashi, Michael (1940) [C03]

(2), 25.03.2017

1.e4 e6 [Typical of Michael. I had prepared well against his line.] 2.d4 d5 3.♟d2 a6?! [I had expected this, and had prepared accordingly. While this move is less popular than 3... c5, 3... ♖f6, or even 3... ♗e7, it is by no means bad for Black.] 4.♟d3 ♟f6 5.♟g3 c5 6.c3 [The point. White will not push e5 but will settle for an isolated pawn position should Black wish it so.] 6...♟c6 7.0-0 ♖b6?! [This move, although thematic in many French lines, is inaccurate here. 7... cxd4 is better. 7...cxd4 8.cxd4 dxe4 9.♟xe4 ♗e7 10.♗e3 0-0 11.♟c1=] 8.exd5 ♟xd5 9.dxc5 ♟xc5 10.♟e4 [Now White gets to gain some tempi as Black has no wishes to give up his dark-squared bishop.] 10...♗e7 11.♟c4? [Rybka recommends 11.c4 ♟f6 12.♖e2 ♟xe4 13.♗xe4 0-0 14.♟d1 ♖c7 15.g3 with an advantage for White, but I preferred to make the Black queen dance.] 11...♖d8 12.♖e2 ♖c7 13.♟d1 ♟f6?! [Black should be willing to give up a pawn; he has moved his pieces too many times in the opening. 13...0-0 14.♟xd5 exd5 15.♟xd5 ♗e6 16.♟d1 ♗ad8 17.♗g5 h6 18.♗xe7 ♖xe7 19.♟g3±] 14.♗g5 b5 [This was Michael's plan, as he told me after the game, to get his queenside developed.] 15.♗b3 ♗b7 16.♟xf6+ gxf6 [Now White has to be slightly more careful. The "g" file is opened and Black could have a dangerous attack if White goes wrong.] 17.♗h4 ♟e5 18.♟d4 ♗g8 19.♗g3 ♟c5 20.a4 [A crack at the queenside shows Black that White is not afraid of Black's kingside attack. The question is, does Black respond to the attack on his pawn?] 20...♖e7?! [Wow, what a move! Black abandons the "b" pawn in a great attempt to get his rooks connected and get his kingside attack rolling. However, moving the king is very double-edged; if White



manages to open the center it could get deadly.] **21.♖h1 h5!** [Offering the pawn to open up more files for the attack! Michael was certainly incredibly aggressive, he showed me that he was pushing hard for the win.] **22.♜xh5?** [Allowing Black an interesting resource to force a draw. 22.f4 h4 23.fxe5 hxg3 24.exf6+ ♖f8 25.h3± A complicated line in which Rybka thinks White is better.] **22...♜h8?!** [The way to keep up the attack, but there was a forced draw opportunity. Line given according to Stockfish 7. 22...♙xg2+! 23.♜xg2 ♜b7+ 24.♜g1 ♙xd4 25.♜xd4 ♖f3+ 26.♜f1 ♙xd4 27.♜c5+ ♜e8 28.cxd4 ♜c8 29.♜a3 b4 30.♜a2 ♜h1+ 31.♜e2 ♜e4+=] **23.♜e2 ♜ag8** [Now all of Black's pieces are aiming at the White king.] **24.♙c2** [I planned 25.♙e4 to neutralize Black's bishop, but I missed Michael's cunning reply.] **24...♜h4!** [Excellent! The rook is unsailable and 25.♙e4 is prevented. Now ideas of ... ♜hg4 and ... ♜xg3 are now present.] **25.♜g1 ♜hg4 26.h3??** [Finally, after careful defense, White blunders. I had already seen 26... ♜xg3, but I missed Michael's even more crushing reply. Simply 26.axb5 was called for. 26.axb5! axb5 27.♜xb5 Surprisingly White's king is completely safe. 27...f5 28.b4 ♙xd4 29.cxd4 f4 30.♜a7 ♜b8 31.dxe5 fxg3 32.hxg3+] **26...♖f3+!!** [I had completely missed this move in my calculations. 26... ♜xg3 is winning as well, so my calculations were completely incorrect. Now, White can't



even take the knight or else he will get mated.] **27.Kf1!** [Only move. 27.gxf3?? $\text{B}\times\text{g3}+$ 28.fxg3 $\text{B}\times\text{g3}+$ 29.♔h1 $\text{B}\times\text{h3}+$ 30.♕h2 $\text{B}\times\text{f3}+$ 31.♕xf3 $\text{B}\times\text{f3}+$ 32.♕g2 $\text{B}\times\text{g2}\#$; 27.♔h1? $\text{B}\times\text{d4}$ 28.cxd4 (28.♕xc7 $\text{B}\times\text{e2}+$) 28...♕xg2+ 29.♔xg2 $\text{B}\times\text{g3}+$ 30.fxg3 $\text{B}\times\text{g3}+$ 31.♔h1 $\text{B}\times\text{h3}+$ 32.♕h2 $\text{B}\times\text{f3}+$ 33.♕g2 $\text{B}\times\text{g2}\#$; 27.♕xf3? $\text{B}\times\text{g3}$ 28.♕d7+ $\text{B}\times\text{d7}$ 29.hxg4 $\text{B}\times\text{g4}$ 30.♕e5+ fxe5 31.♕xg4 $\text{B}\times\text{g4}+$] **27...♕xd4??** [Giving most of his advantage back. Michael almost played 27... $\text{B}\times\text{g3}$, which is indeed the winning move. 27... $\text{B}\times\text{g3}!!$ 28.♕f5+ ♔f8 29.♕xg3 $\text{B}\times\text{g3}$ 30.♕d8+ (30.fxg3 ♕h2+!! 31.♔e1 $\text{B}\times\text{g3}+$ 32.♔d2 ♕f3!! 33.gxf3 ♕f4+ 34.♔e1 $\text{B}\times\text{f3}+$) 30...♕xd8 31.fxg3 ♕h2+ 32.♔e1 ♕b8 33.♔d2 $\text{B}\times\text{g3}+$] **28.hxg4!** [With so many pieces hanging, White takes the right one. 28.♕xc7?? $\text{B}\times\text{g2}!$ 29.♕g4 ♕xc2 30.♕f4 e5 31.♕f5 $\text{B}\times\text{f2}+$ 32.♕xf2 ♕xf2 33.♕xf2 $\text{B}\times\text{g2}+$ 34.♔f1 ♕xa1 35.♕xa1 bxa4 36.♕xa4 $\text{B}\times\text{b2}+$; 28.♕xg4? ♕xg2+ 29.♔g1 $\text{B}\times\text{g4}$ 30.hxg4 ♕c6+; 28.cxd4?? ♕xg2+!! 29.♔xg2 $\text{B}\times\text{g3}+$ 30.fxg3 $\text{B}\times\text{g3}+$ 31.♔h1 $\text{B}\times\text{h3}+$ 32.♕h2 $\text{B}\times\text{f3}+$ 33.♕g2 $\text{B}\times\text{g2}\#$] **28...♕c6?** [Now it's just equal. Black's last chance for the advantage was 28... ♕h8, threatening mate. 28...♕h8! 29.♔e1 $\text{B}\times\text{g3}!$ 30.fxg3 ♕xe2 31.♔xe2 ♕h2 $\bar{?}$] **29.♕xd4!** [Black suddenly finds himself a rook down. How can he maintain the balance.] **29...♕xg2+?** [And in time trouble, he crumbles. This puts the queen way out of play. 29...♕xd4 30.♕f3 (30.cxd4? ♕h8 31.f3 ♕h1+ 32.♔f2 ♕xa1 33.axb5 ♕xb5 $\bar{?}$) 30...♕xf3 31.gxf3 ♕xf3 32.♔e1 ♕e5=]

30.♔e1 ♕xd4 31.cxd4± [Now White is the one who is winning.] **31...♕h8 32.♔d2 ♕d8 33.♕e3 e5 34.♕e1 ♕c6?!** [The final mistake.] **35.♕xe5!** [And Black resigned. A brilliant game by Michael, the newest addition to the Iowa State Closed. He conducted an attack extremely well, only to falter at the time when it mattered most. He went on to have a great tournament against the rest of the masters, finishing on 1.5/6 and gaining 16 rating points.] **1-0**

Neal, James Alex (2229) – Brashaw, Dan (2261) [B93] (2), 25.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.♕f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♕xd4 ♕f6 5.♕c3 a6 6.♕e2 g6 7.f4 ♕g7 8.♕e3 ♕c7 9.a4 ♕bd7 10.0-0 0-0 11.♕b3 b6 12.♕f3 ♕b7 13.♕d2 ♕fd8 14.♕fd1 ♕ac8 15.♕f2 ♕b8 16.♕d2 ♕c6 17.♕b3 ♕a8 18.♕d5 ♕xd5 19.exd5 ♕b7 20.c3 ♕c5 21.♕a3 ♕e8 22.♕c1 ♕d7 23.♕d2 e6 24.dxe6 ♕xe6 25.♕xb7 ♕xb7 26.♕d3 ♕ce8 27.♕e1 ♕d5 28.♕a1 ♕c5 29.♕xc5 ♕xd2 30.♕xd2 bxc5 31.♕f2 ♕b8 32.♕a2 c4 33.♕e3 ♕f8 34.a5 ♕b5 35.♕e2 ♕e7 36.♕a4 d5 37.♕d2 ♕c6 38.♕a1 fxd6 39.♕b6 ♕d7 40.♕f1 f5 41.♕e2 ♕f6 42.♕fd1 ♕c6 43.♕a1 ♕d8 44.♕d4 ♕xa5 45.♕xa5 ♕xa5 46.♕d1 ♕b6 47.♕e5 ♕d7 48.♕c2 ♕d1 49.h3 h5 50.g4 fxg4 51.hxg4 h4 52.♕g2 ♕e3 53.♕h2 g5 54.fxg5 ♕xg5 55.♕f2 ♕d8 56.♕f7 ♕e8 57.♕f5 ♕g8 58.♕f7 ♕d8 0-1

Round 3 featured Takahashi (0)-Keating (0.5), Brashaw (2)-Wan (1.5), Kosokin (1)-Neal (1)

Brashaw, Dan (2261) – Wan, Joseph (2238) [A16] (3), 25.03.2017

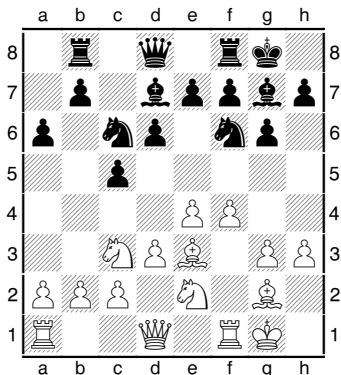
1.c4 b6 2.♕c3 ♕b7 3.e4 ♕f6 4.d3 e5 5.♕f3 d6 6.♕e2 g6 7.0-0 ♕g7 8.♕e1 ♕c6 9.♕c2 ♕d7 10.b4 0-0 11.♕e3 ♕e7 12.b5 ♕e8 13.♕b4 f5 14.a4 ♕f6 15.f3 f4 16.♕f2 g5 17.a5 h5 18.♕b3 ♕h8 19.d4 exd4 20.♕xd4 ♕g6 21.♕fd1 ♕f7 22.♕b2 ♕d7 23.♕cd5 ♕xd4+ 24.♕xd4+ ♕de5 25.axb6 axb6 26.♕xa8 ♕xa8 27.♕a1 ♕g7 28.♕h1 ♕d8 29.♕a7 ♕xd5 30.cxd5 g4 31.♕f2 ♕g8 32.♕c2 g3 33.♕g1 h4 34.h3 ♕c8 35.♕d4 ♕d7 36.♕d1 ♕c5 ½-½

After the tournament leaders drew the others were dreaming of catching up some ground.

Annotations by Bob Keating

Takahashi, Michael (1940) – Keating, Robert (2138) [B25] (3), 25.03.2017

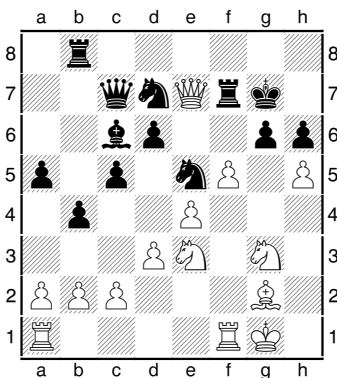
[Michael was appearing in his first IA Closed Championship. Although he was not the clear favorite to win the tournament, he certainly belonged in the group playing and had played competitively against me and other masters previously.] **1.e4 g6 2.♗c3 ♕g7 3.g3 d6 4.♕g2** [This way of playing against the Modern is not as overtly aggressive as the Austrian but certainly can become so later on.] **4...c5 5.♗ge2 ♗c6 6.d3 a6** [6...e6 is Black's most common move. 6...a6 is a bit off the popularity chart but not necessarily unsound.] **7.♗e3 ♗d7 8.f4 ♗f6 9.h3 ♖b8** [seeking to neutralize the ♕g2 by vacating its diagonal.] **10.0-0 0-0** [Both sides have developed reasonably and without conflict.



The position seems to be equal.] **11.f5 ♗e5?!** [While posting the knight to a more forward square, this move really isn't connected to a specific plan. As such, I would suggest a different approach next time. 11...e6 may be a good way to counter, forcing White's play to proceed faster than he is prepared for.; 11...b5 with the idea of causing disorder by displacing White's ♗c3 would have been better than the

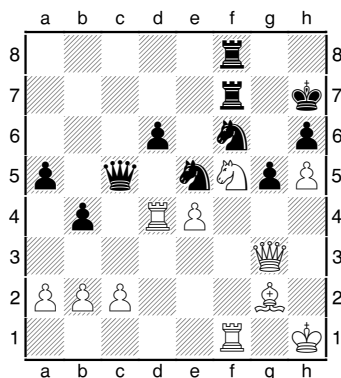
move played in the game.] **12.♖d2 b5** [I wish I had played this on the previous move. Now, I underestimated White's attack, figuring that the upcoming trade of dark square bishops would not lead to much since both sides were castled on the kingside. 12...♗h8 13.g4 ♗c6 14.g5 ♗h5?] **13.g4 b4 14.♗d1 ♗c6 15.♗g3 ♖c7?!** [Another planless developing move. Better would have been 15...a5 since that side of the board is where Black has the potential for counterplay, envisioning a4 and b3 to either open the b-file or destabilize the pawn on d3 by attacking the base of the chain.] **16.♗h6 ♖fd8?!** [This move only served to compel White to do what he wanted to do, anyway. I had envisioned possibly playing d5 but as the game shows, there was never time to do so. 16...♗b7 17.♗xg7 ♖xg7 18.g5 ♗f7 19.♗e3 f6=] **17.♗xg7 ♖xg7 18.g5 ♗f7** [Other retreats, such as ♗g8 or ♗e8 seemed too hopelessly passive.] **19.♖f4** [White clearly has some serious attacking aspirations on the kingside. Black is holding but doesn't seem to have time for counterplay elsewhere.] **19...f6** [A stock defensive move in such positions. Allowing White to proceed with f6 followed by ♖h4-h6 was not an option. It would also be nice for Black to still have his rook on f8.] **20.h4** [This at least rules out the ♖h4-h6 idea, which would be less effective without a pawn on f6. 20.fxg6 hxg6 21.gxf6+ exf6=] **20...♖f8** [20...♖h8 was perhaps better. 21.♗e3 ♖g8=] **21.♗e3** [Defending positions like this is sometimes a way of life in the Modern Defense. It can be done but uses up a lot of clock time.] **21...a5?!** [Not the best time to seek counterplay, 21...♖h8 or 21...♗d8 would have been better. I failed to take into account the undefended status of e7 in the upcoming play.] **22.h5?!** [a missed opportunity for White. 22.fxg6! hxg6 23.♗h3 ♖f7 24.gxf6 ♗xf6 25.♗d5 ♗xd5 26.exd5 ♖h8 27.♗e6+ ♖g7±] **22...fxg5!** [I knew at this point that e7 would fall, but it seemed more important to save my king and close off the attack.] **23.♖xg5 h6! 24.♖xe7+ ♖f7** [Black seems to be barely

hanging on, but White's attack is already fizzling out.]



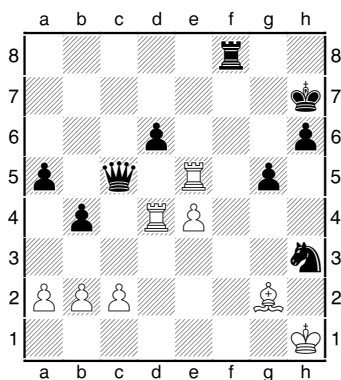
25. ♖e6 [25.f6+ ♜h8 26. ♖e6 ♜f8 27. ♗h3 g5=; 25. ♗xf7+!? ♜xf7 26.fxg6 ♜de5! (26... ♜g5 27. ♜gf5+ ♜h8 28. ♜g4 looks dangerous for Black, although Komodo claims it to be dead even.) 27.gxf7 ♜f8 28.c3 ♜d7 29.d4 ♜xf7=] **25... ♜f6** [25... ♜f8!? 26.f6+ (26. ♗b3? a4) 26... ♜h8 27. ♗h3 g5=] **26. ♗e7+** ♜f7 [I forgot to press my clock here, not realizing it until my opponent left the board and my time had gone from 33 to 24 minutes.] **27. ♗h4** [I would have sought a draw by repetition after 27. ♖e6.] **27... g5** **28.f6+?!** [Although White must do this immediately or lose the chance to do so, the return of material gave me more hope to mount a comeback than if he had kept things solidly closed.] **28... ♜xf6** **29. ♜gf5+** ♜h7 **30. ♗h3** [Another way of life in the Modern – once White's attack has run its course, there is usually a chance for Black to try for an advantage. Unfortunately, I had insufficient time to do any real strategic planning.] **30... ♜bf8** **31. ♜ad1!** [With ample time, it is White who comes up with a good plan – open the d-file to attack the weak pawn on d6. This only fails due to tactical fortune smiling on Black.] **31... ♜d7** **32. ♗g3** ♜e6 **33.d4 cxd4** **34. ♜xd4** ♜xf5 **35. ♜xf5** ♗c5 **36. ♗h1?** [This opens the way for Black to gain a winning advantage tactically. I only had about 7 minutes left to sort out the sequence starting with 36... ♜xh5 and

37... ♜xf5. I could have played the "safer" 36... ♗xc2 but did not have time to analyze what followed after 37. ♜xd6 or ♜xd6. 36.c3 ♜c7]



36... ♜xh5! [This is Black's best move. I decided to go for it once down to about 3 minutes. I would either win or go down trying what had to be played. I have played over 70,000 blitz games online over the past 20 years and am just as bad now as I was then. 36... ♗xc2 37. ♜xd6 (37. ♜xd6? ♜xh5 38. ♜xf7+ ♜xf7 39. ♗xe5 ♜f4 and Black will win.) 37... ♗xb2 38. ♜b6 a4 39. ♜b5 ♜e8 and Black is fine with an extra pawn, but the position is still quite messy.] **37. ♗h3** ♜xf5 **38. ♜xf5** [This is about as far as I could clearly calculate prior to move 36. Now, with the clock ticking faster and faster, I considered ♜xf5, ♗xd4, and ♜f4 before spotting ♜g3, as well. I did not like 38... ♜xf5 due to 39. ♗xf5+; however, I failed to go further and see that after 39... ♜g7 there were no more checks and White cannot save the ♜d4 no matter how hard he tries. I concluded that 38... ♜g3+ would provide me with a solid advantage in material and position since White's queen would be obstructed from penetrating my position. As time whittled away, though, I more automatically sought simplicity and concluded that 38... ♜f4, which I had spent the most time on, was the way to go.] **38... ♜f4?** [While retaining some advantage, this gives White more hope than Black's 2 better options. 38... ♜xf5!!

39. ♖xf5+ (39. exf5 ♖xd4 40. ♖h5 ♖b2+ with a big advantage for Black. (40... ♖h4+ 41. ♖xh4 g×h4+ is a better ending for Black if simplicity were desired.)) 39... ♖g7 (39... ♖g8? 40. ♖e6+ ♖f7 41. ♖g6+ ♖f8 42. ♖d5 ♖g3+ 43. ♖h2 ♖f2 44. ♖b5= and Black can do no better than perpetual check.) 40. ♖d3 (40. ♖f2 ♖g3+ 41. ♖xg3 (41. ♖g1 ♖xd4 42. ♖xd4 ♖e2+)) 41... ♖xd4+ 40... ♖xc2 41. ♖f3 ♖xf3 42. ♖d7+ ♖h8 43. ♖e8+ ♖h7 44. ♖f7+ ♖g7 45. ♖xf3 ♖xb2+; 38... ♖g3? 39. ♖xg3 ♖xf5 40. ♖d5 ♖f2 41. ♖xf2 ♖xf2 42. ♖xd6 ♖xc2+ another better ending for Black with the queens off the board and the threat of ♖c1+ looming.; 38... ♖xd4? gives away all advantage. 39. ♖x8 ♖g7 (39... ♖f4? 40. ♖f5+±) 40. ♖xh5 ♖x8 41. ♖xh6+=] 39. ♖xe5? [This is a mistake, but the move surprised me as I had only calculated 39. ♖e3. Once again beguiled by lack of time and afraid of what might happen if White were to play a check on the 7th rank, I responded ineffectively. 39. ♖e3 ♖c8 (39... ♖g4? 40. ♖xc5 ♖xe3 41. ♖xd6 ♖exg2 42. ♖c7+ ♖g8 43. ♖dd7=)] 39... ♖xh3? [There is no advantage now. I imagined my connected



passed pawns might be strong, but as further play and analysis shows, it was only true in my imagination. 39... ♖xd4! 40. ♖e7+ (40. ♖d7+ ♖g6 41. ♖e7 ♖xg2 and White will be mated soon.) 40... ♖g6+ Black's king is safe and his position much better.; 39... dxe5! 40. ♖d7+ ♖g8+ Black's king finds a different safe square, and his

position is quite preferable.; 39... ♖xe5 40. ♖d7+ ♖g7 41. ♖xd6 ♖xd7 42. ♖xd7+ ♖g6+ Despite material equality, Black seems to have an advantage due to his connected passed pawns and more active king.; 39... ♖a7!? Purely, a computer move. 40. ♖g4 ♖xg2 41. c3 (41. ♖xg2 ♖xd4+) 41... ♖h4 42. ♖f5 (42. ♖ed5 ♖f1+ 43. ♖h2 ♖f7+) 42... ♖xf5 43. exf5 bxc3 44. bxc3 ♖c5+] 40. ♖xc5 ♖f2+ 41. ♖g1 dxc5 [Black's play is at least easier to calculate and there is little chance of losing the game; however, that is little consolation to knowing I missed several chances for a better result.] 42. ♖d7+? [This check is unnecessary and encourages Black to improve his king position. 42. ♖d5=] 42... ♖g6 43. ♖c7 ♖d1 [43... ♖g4 44. ♖xc5 ♖e3 (44... h5 45. e5=; 44... ♖h5 45. e5 ♖h4 46. ♖c4 ♖g3 47. ♖e4 ♖d8 48. ♖e2 ♖d1+ 49. ♖f1=) 45. e5 ♖f5 46. ♖xa5 ♖d8 47. e6+ ♖xe6 48. ♖f2 ♖xc2 49. ♖e4 ♖d4 50. ♖e3=] 44. ♖xc5 ♖xb2 45. ♖xa5 ♖b8 [45... ♖c8 46. e5 ♖c4 47. ♖a6+ ♖f5 48. e6=] 46. ♖c5 ♖b6 47. ♖f2 ♖d1+ 48. ♖e2 ♖c3+ 49. ♖d3 ♖xa2 50. e5 ♖c3 51. ♖d4 ♖e2+ [51... h5 52. ♖c6 g4 53. ♖e8+ ♖g5 54. e6+ ♖f6=] 52. ♖e3 ♖f4 53. ♖e4+ ♖f7 54. ♖f3 b3 55. cxb3 ♖xb3+ 56. ♖e4 ♖e6 57. ♖h5+ ♖g7 58. ♖a5 ♖b4+ 59. ♖f5 ♖g7+ 60. ♖g6 ♖xh5 61. ♖xh6 [White knows the pawns are worth more than the knight. 61. ♖xh5?? ♖h4+ and Black wins.] 61... g4 [It was late and I had no time, so I did not wish to explore R + N vs. R, which is known to be a draw. 61... ♖g3 62. ♖xg5 ♖e6=] 62. ♖xh5 g3 63. ♖a3 g2 64. ♖g3 ♖b8 65. ♖xg2 ♖h8+ 66. ♖g4 ♖g8+ 67. ♖f3 [This was a back and forth game with probably a disappointing result for both sides. White had the better opening and middlegame, and Black struck out in time pressure when his chances finally came. The only real cure for time pressure is to avoid it.]

½-½

Kosokin, Valeriy (2223) – Neal, James (2229) [A08] (3), 25.03.2017

1. e4 e6 2. d3 d5 3. ♖d2 c5 4. ♖g3 ♖c6 5. g3 g6 6. ♖g2 ♖g7 7. 0-0 ♖ge7 8. ♖e1 0-0 9. c3 e5 10. exd5 ♖xd5 11. ♖b3 b6

12.d4 exd4 13.cxd4 c4 14.♟bd2 ♟a6
 15.♟e4 ♟a5 16.a3 ♟c8 17.♟g5 f6
 18.♟d2 ♟b3 19.♟b1 ♟d7 20.♟c3 ♟fd8
 21.♟ed2 ♟xd2 22.♟xd2 ♟b7 23.♟e4
 f5 24.♟g5 ♟f6 25.♟d2 ♟e8 26.h4 ♟c6
 27.♟bd1 b5 28.♟xe8+ ♟xe8 29.♟e1 ♟e7
 30.♟f3 ♟d6 31.♟xe7 ♟xe7 32.♟e5
 ♟b7 33.♟h2 ♟d6 34.♟g1 ♟c8 35.♟h2
 ♟e6 36.♟g1 ♟d8 37.♟a5 ♟f6 38.♟c3
 ♟g7 39.♟h2 a6 40.♟g1 ♟c7 41.♟a5
 ♟d6 42.♟c3 ♟xc3 43.♟xc3 ♟d5 44.f4
 ♟d8 45.♟f3 ♟b6 46.♟g2 ♟e4 47.d5
 ♟xd5 48.♟xe4 ♟xe4+ 49.♟f3+ ♟h6
 50.♟h3 0-1

And James made up half a point on the leaders with this win placing himself in a tie for second with Joseph. Going into the second day the standings stood as:

Brashaw	2.5
Wan	2.0
Neal	2.0
Kosokin	1.0
Keating	1.0
Takahashi	0.5

Round 4 featured Keating-Neal, Wan-Kosokin, Takahashi-Brashaw

Wan, Joseph (2238) – Kosokin, Valeriy (2223) [B52] (4), 26.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.♟f3 d6 3.♟b5+ ♟d7 4.♟xd7+ ♟xd7 5.0-0 ♟c6 6.♟e2 ♟f6 7.♟d1 e6
 8.d4 cxd4 9.c3 d3 10.♟xd3 ♟c7 11.♟g5
 ♟e7 12.♟a3 a6 13.♟ad1 ♟e5 14.♟xe5
 dxe5 15.♟c4 ♟d8 16.♟xd8+ ♟xd8
 17.♟d6+ ♟e7 18.♟h4 ♟xd6 19.♟xd6
 ♟xd6 20.♟d3+ ♟c7 21.♟g3 ♟g8
 22.♟xe5+ ♟c8 23.♟c5+ ♟d7 24.♟d4+
 ♟c8 25.♟g3 ♟e8 26.♟c5+ ♟c7 27.♟h5
 ♟e8 28.♟xh7 1-0

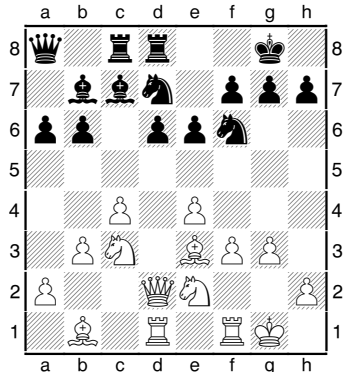
Once again we are lucky to feature both players annotating the same game. First we will hear from Bob Keating then James Neal.

Keating, Robert (2138) – Neal, James (2229) [B42]

IA Closed (4), 26.03.2017

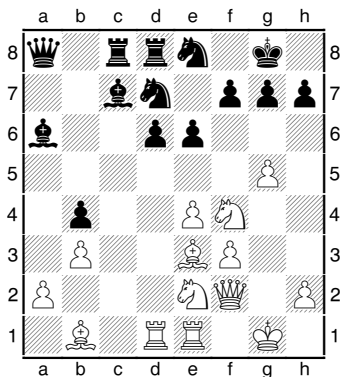
1.e4 c5 2.♟f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♟xd4 a6
 5.♟d3 [The Kan Sicilian. James and I

recently played a game where he combined this with g6.] 5...♟c5 [This is Black's second most common move, after 5...♟f6, and encourages the ♟d4 to go to a less active square.] 6.♟b3 ♟e7 7.0-0 [7.♟g4 playing the same tempo game as Black, forcing a kingside weakening before retreating to the actual desired position. 7...g6 8.♟e2 d6 9.0-0 ♟d7] 7...d6 8.c4 ♟f6 9.♟c3 ♟bd7 10.♟e3 ♟c7 11.♟c1 b6 12.f3 ♟b7 13.♟d2 ♟c8 14.♟d4 ♟b8 15.b3 0-0 [Each side has developed without interference from the other. Black's position is compact yet solid. White has more space but more weak squares behind his advanced pawns.] 16.♟b1 ♟d8 17.♟de2 ♟c7 18.g3 ♟a8 19.♟cd1 ♟fd8 [The maneuvering has been focused on the d5 square, with Black preparing to push his pawn from d6 to d5 and White trying to prevent that. Black has concentrated his pieces on the queenside, while White has kept his centralized but has played the weakening move, g3, which leads to problems with the f3 square.]



20.♟f4? [I considered this to be strong since d5 is prevented and the ♟f4 cannot be dislodged without weakening of Black's pawn structure; however, my computer does not like it.] 20...♟c6 [Once again, I was starting to run short on time. Black is obviously preparing to play b5, after which ♟a5 will be a threat. I thought for a while here about a knight sacrifice on d5 in order to lock Black's pieces away from the

kingside; however, I did not believe I would be able to mount an attack there quickly enough. 20...b5! 21.♖b2 bxc4 22.bxc4 ♖b8 23.♗d3 21.g4?! [Perhaps a bit too eager. Prevention of b5 by a4 was indicated. 21.a4±] 21...b5 22.g5 ♖e8 23.cxb5 axb5 24.♖f2 b4 25.♗ce2 ♗b5 26.♖fe1 ♗a6 [The position is rated as equal, although Black seems to have a better future since White's kingside attack is going nowhere and the weak pawn on a2 and squares on the kingside cannot be fixed by White.]



27.♗d3?! [I was not really playing with a plan in mind at this point and lost the game as a result. White should continue to play on the kingside. 27.h4 ♖b7 28.h5 ♗b6 29.♗xb6 ♗xb6 30.g6 e5 31.gxf7+ ♖xf7 32.♗d5=] 27...♖b7 28.♗d4 ♗c5 29.♗e2 [No plan in action!] 29...♗x d3! [Black correctly realizes that minor piece exchanges will help him to expose the White weaknesses.] 30.♗x d3 ♗x d3 31.♖x d3 d5 32.ex d5 ♖x d5 33.♖x d5 ♖x d5 34.♖c1 ♖a8 [Black's advantage is becoming clearer. White will be tied to defending a2 and g5 and must also worry about his king, while Black only needs to address his back rank at some point.] 35.♗g3 ♗d6 36.♖c2 ♗e7 37.♗e4 ♗d6 38.♗x d6 ♖x d6 [As mentioned by GM Gulko in Lessons with a Grandmaster, king safety is the deciding factor in major piece endings. White is in trouble.] 39.♖d2 ♖e5 40.f4? [This pawn was needed to protect

the light squares in front of White's king. 40.♖c4 moves the rook to a better square for both attack and defense. 40...♖a1+ 41.♖c1 ♖e5=] 40...♖f5 41.♖c7 ♗f8 42.♖c2 [Again, ♖c4 would have been better.] 42...♖g4+ 43.♖f2 h6 44.gxh6 ♖h4+ 45.♖g1 ♗d8 46.♖e2 ♖xh6 47.f5 ♖f6 48.fxe6 ♖g6+ 49.♖f1? [Apparently, ♖h1 had to be played. 49.♖h1 ♖e4+ 50.♖g1 ♖xe6 51.♗f2 ♖f5+ Black is better, but White can keep playing.] 49...♖xe6 50.♗f2 [White has rid himself of 2 weak pawns, but Black is commanding the action. It should just be a matter of time and technique.] 50...♖h3+ 51.♖g1 ♗d5 52.♗d2? [a blunder in time pressure and a losing position.] 52...♖g5+ 53.♗g3 ♗c5+ 54.♖h1 ♖xg3 55.♗d8+ ♖h7 56.♖c2+ f5 57.♗d1 ♖c3 [Once again, time pressure and planless play were my downfall. 57...♖h5 is more forceful.] 0-1

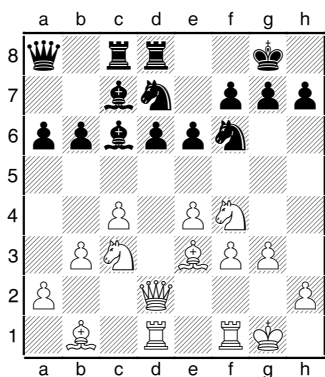
James' turn

Keating,Robert (2138) – Neal,James

Alex (2229) [B42] (4), 26.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.♗f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 a6 5.♗d3 ♗c5! [I had been working this alternative out in preparation for the closed. The exotic 5...g6 had left a bitter taste in my mouth following my last round of the Cedar Rapids Leather Jackets tournament where I was nearly beaten by Dan Vasto playing the system. 5...g6!? 6.0-0 ♗g7 7.♗e3 ♗e7 8.c4 0-0 9.♗c3 ♗bc6 10.♗xc6 ♗xc6 1:29 11.c5 d6 12.♗a4 dxc5 13.♗xc5 ♖e8 14.♗b6 ♖b8 15.♖e2? I expected ♖c2 here. 15...♗d4 16.b4 ♗xb4 17.♗xb4 ♖xb6?! (17...♗xa1) 18.♖ab1 e5 0-1 Keating,R (2132)–Neal,J (2216) Cedar Rapids 2017 [Neal,James]] 6.♗b3 ♗e7 7.0-0 d6 8.c4 ♗f6 9.♗c3 ♗bd7 10.♗e3!? [This move caught me by surprise, I had been expecting ♖e2 but there is nothing wrong with ♗e3. I figured the bishop was most dangerous on d2. 10.f4 ♖c7 11.♖e2 b6 12.♗d2 ♗b7 13.♖ae1 The bishop doesn't obstruct white's potential e5 advance.] 10...♖c7 11.♖c1 b6 12.f3 ♗b7 13.♖d2 ♖c8 [13...♗e5 14.♗e2 0! 0 15.♗a4 ♗fd7 16.♗d4 ♖ac8 17.b4 ♖b8 18.a3 ♗a8 19.♖fd1 ♖c7

20.♖e1 ♜fc8 21.♟b2 ♜g6 22.♗f2 ♜h4 23.g3 ♜e7 24.♟b3 ♜ge5 25.♜d4 ♜f6 26.♗f1 h5 27.♗h3 b5! 0-1 (39) Aginian,N (2310) – Mchedlishvili,M (2504) Yerevan 2004] 14.♜d4 ♗b8 15.b3 0-0 16.♜b1 ♜d8! [I had seen this idea before but usually I had been on the white side of it in blitz games. The bishop is headed to c7 where it can be useful on the b8 to h2 diagonal following a d-break.] 17.♜de2 [17.♗f2 ♜e8 18.♜fe1 ♜c7 19.♗h4 ♜e5 20.♗h1 ♜g6 21.♗h3 ♜d8 22.f4 b5! 23.cxb5 ♜a5 24.♜d2 e5 25.fxe5 dxe5 26.♜f5 axb5] And black looks fine here 0-1 (33) Biedekoepper,R (2194) –Khurtsidze,N (2411) Essen 2004] 17...♜c7 18.g3 ♗a8 19.♜cd1 ♜fd8 20.♜f4 ♜c6 [I was beginning to feel uncomfortable here, I prepared this move for my b-break but I expected white to put up a little resistance with a4. If I don't open the position, its a just a matter of time before white breaks through on the kingside.]



21.g4 b5! 22.g5 ♜e8 23.cxb5 axb5 24.♗f2 [24.b4 ♟b6 Supporting d5 or heading to c4 to pick off the dark-squared bishop. 25.♜d3 d5 26.exd5 ♜xf4 (26...♜xd5 27.♜xd5 ♜xd5 28.♜xd5 ♗xd5 29.♗f2) 27.♜xf4 ♜xd5 28.♜xd5 ♜xd5 29.♗b2 ♜cd8 30.♜e2 ♜xd1 31.♜xd1 ♜xd1+ 32.♜xd1 ♜xf3] 24...b4! [Robert told me after the game his regrets not playing b4 himself.] 25.♜ce2 ♜b5 26.♜fe1 ♜a6 [To deter ♜d4] 27.♜d3 ♗b7 28.♜d4 ♜c5 29.♜e2 ♜xd3 30.♜xd3 ♜xd3 31.♜xd3 d5 32.exd5 ♜xd5 33.♜xd5 ♗xd5 34.♜c1 ♜a8 [I was relieved that his attack had

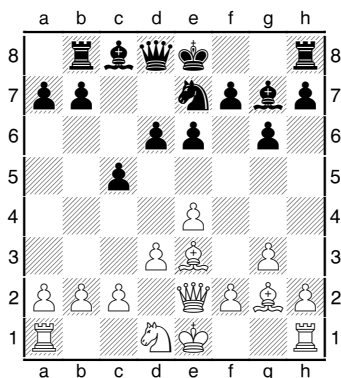
dissolved but now I was worried that the position would be too simple to lose. His kingside doesn't look good and my b-pawn is putting in work on his pawn majority.] 35.♜g3 ♜d6 36.♜c2 ♜e7 37.♜e4 ♜d6 38.♜xd6 ♗xd6 39.♗d2 ♗e5 40.f4 ♗f5 41.♜c7 ♜f8 42.♜c2 ♗g4+ [Here I had a deep think, I wanted to weaken his pawn structure and the safety of his king with a timely h6 advance. The problem was making sure I could recapture on h6 with my queen (to avoid any serious weaknesses to my own king via gxh6).] 43.♗f2 [43.♗h1 This is what I was looking at, I figured I would need to play a move like ♗h5 to get h6 in.] 43...h6 44.gxh6 ♗h4+ 45.♗g1 ♜d8! 46.♗e2 ♗xh6 47.f5 ♗f6 48.fxc6 ♗g6+ 49.♗f1 ♗xc6+ [I felt I was better here because I had the safer king but the statement is the easy part. :o] 50.♜f2 ♗h3+ 51.♗g1 ♜d5! [My plan was to try and claim the 1st rank with ♗d7 and ♜d1. Robert was in serious time trouble at this point so I figured a move like this would be overwhelming to calculate. He also has to consider the possibilities on the g-file.] 52.♜d2?? [52.♗h1 ♜g5 53.♜d4 ♜f5 54.♜f2] 52...♜g5+ 53.♜g3 ♜c5+ 54.♗h1 ♜xg3+ 55.♜d8+ ♗h7 56.♗c2+ f5 57.♜d1 ♜c3 0-1

Annotations by Dan Brashaw

Takahashi,Michael (1940) – Brashaw, Daniel (2261) [B26] (4), 26.03.2017

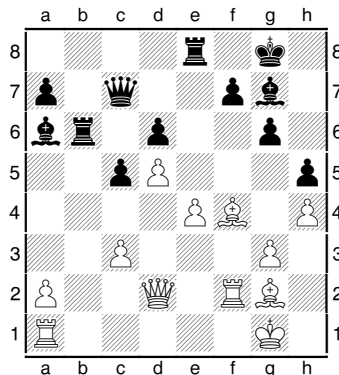
1.e4 c5 2.♜c3 [I hadn't faced Michael from the black side in recent memory, and his fantastic improvement and rating gain suggest that he probably didn't play the same openings he played merely a year ago.] 2...♜c6 3.g3 g6 4.♜g2 ♜g7 5.♜ge2 e6 6.d3 ♜ge7 7.♜e3 ♜d4 [Everything is pretty standard up to here. He very quickly played ♗d2.] 8.♗d2 [More typical is for the queen to stay on d1, castle kingside, play f4 and attempt to pry open black's kingside with an f4-f5 push. 8.0-0 d6 9.f4 0-0 This is similar to a King's Indian Attack setup with the notable

exception of the e2 knight's placement not being on f3, and making it difficult to play c3-e2 clearing the d4 square.] **8...d6** **9.d1** [Michael played this same setup as the black side when I opened with an English in our game at the Burlington Open. Differences would be that I would have a7-a6, and the e7 knight on f6.] **9...cxe2** **10.0xe2** **0b8** [The standard plan for black is to expand rapidly on the queenside while white occupies the center and determines what central pawn thrust to try and lever the position open when beneficial.]



11.c3 **b5** **12.0d2!** [I have some skepticism moving the queen so many times is in white's best interest. It seems to let black have a free hand for 2-3 tempi.] **12...h5** **13.h4** [While this move is not a mistake, it's probably an error to waste this extra tempo playing h4. It isn't in black's best interest to play h5-h4, and open the kingside since he doesn't have good control over kingside squares. My intention was to stop white from doing this prematurely.] **13...0c7** **14.d4** **0b7** **15.d5!** [15.0-0 0-0 16.f4 White needs to activate the knight in order to activate the rooks – all just to complete development. 16...cxd4 17.cxd4 d5 18.e5 0f5 19.0f2=] **15...exd5** **16.exd5** **0-0** **17.0-0** **0f5** **18.0f4** **0fe8** **19.0e3** **0xe3** **20.fxe3!?** [Michael wrote his own !? mark on his notation sheet, so I'll give him this same one. It seems like black's plan to play a6-b4-bxc3 is simple

and gives black a small edge.] **20...0a6** **21.0f2** **b4** **22.e4** **bxc3** **23.bxc3** **0b6** [It's not clear how white is to create counter-play on the f-file when black constantly invades. Black always meets an effort to defend e1 with 0eb8 and 0b2 .]



24.0e1 **0e7** **25.0e3** **0c8** [Although the computer prefers keeping the bishop on a6, I didn't want to feel too overwhelmed on forces on the kingside.] **26.0e1** **0g4** **27.0h2** **f6** [This move is dual purpose: to threaten g6-g5 winning a piece/strike toward the kingside and also to support the e5 square.] **28.0c1?** [28.0d3 g5 29.hxg5 fxg5 30.0c1 0b1 31.0d2 c4! 32.0e3 0e5 Black's pieces become harmonic] **28...g5** **29.0e1** **gxf4** **30.0xf4** **0e5** **0-1**

Round 5 featured Brashaw-Keating, Kosokin-Takahashi, Neal-Wan

Dan had 3.5 points and Joseph and James each had 3.0 points. Joseph and James had to face each other with both needing a victory to have a shot at the title. Bob and Valeriy each had one point and Michael had a half point. Very early in the round Dan and Bob agreed to a draw. This left James and Joseph each a chance to be co-champs.

Annotations by Bob Keating

Brashaw,Dan (2261) – Keating,Robert (2138) [B06] (5), 26.03.2017

[This would be my 18th game against

Dan, who passed Tim McEntee (16) as my most common opponent earlier this year. Dan needed only a draw to assure himself of at least a tie for first, although I'm sure his intention was to win and rule out the possibility of a shared title. I had nothing to play for but also nothing to lose, so I could be as cautious or reckless as I wanted to be solely for entertainment value.] **1.e4 g6 2.d4 ♘g7 3.♟c3 d6 4.♙e3 a6 5.a4 b6 6.f4 ♘d7 7.♟f3 ♙b7 8.♙d3 c5** [8...e6 seems to be better.] **9.♙e2** [Both Stockfish and Komodo prefer 9.d5.] **9...♙c7** [Exchanging pawns immediately on c4 was indicated. Now, White can again play d5 with an enduring central space advantage.] **10.0-0!** [Again, d5 seems preferable for long-term pressure.] **10...cxd4 11.♙xd4** [This allows Black to trade down to a safe middlegame without queens.] **11...♙xd4+ 12.♙xd4 ♙c5 13.♙f2 ♘gf6 14.♙b3** [14.h3 e5 15.♙b3 (15.fxe5 dxe5 16.♙b3 ♙xf2+ 17.♙xf2 ♙c8=) 15...♙xf2+ 16.♙xf2 0-0=] **14...♙xf2+ 15.♙xf2 0-0 16.h3** [Dan offered a draw here, and I had no good reason to believe I could do better. Sadly, this was probably my best game of the tournament, although the rest were at least competitive.]

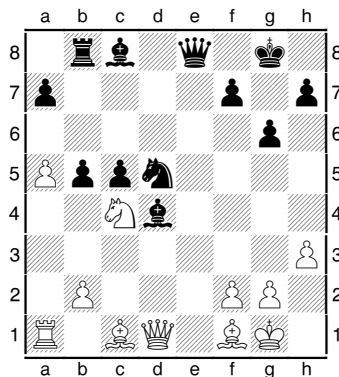
½-½

Annotations by Michael Takahashi

Kosokin, Valeriy (2223) – Takahashi, Michael (1940) [C00]
(5), 26.03.2017

1.e4 e6 2.d3 d5 3.♘d2 c5 4.♘gf3 ♘c6 5.c3 g6 6.♙e2 ♙g7 7.0-0 ♘ge7 8.♙e1 0-0 9.♙f1 e5! [The beginning of a strong transformation of the pawn structure by Black which leads to a reversed Maroczy Bind position. ♙c7!? was played in the game Rioboo de Larriva A. (2247) – Recuerdo Guerra, D. (2454), which White eventually won. e5! seems better since it provokes White to play exd5, or be faced with an eventual f5.] **10.exd5 ♘xd5 11.h3 b6 12.♘c4 ♙e8 13.a4 ♙b8 14.d4?** [After exd4, ♙xe8+, ♙xe8, cxd4, ♘xd4,

♘xd4, ♙xd4, Black wins a pawn, as happened in the game. Instead, according to Stockfish, White should've opted for ♙g5, with the idea of playing ♙h4-g3 in order to apply more pressure on the h2-b8 diagonal.] **14...cxd4 15.♙xe8+ ♙xe8 16.cxd4 ♘xd4 17.♙xd4 ♙xd4 18.a5 b5!±**



19.♙a3 ♙f5! [This move is necessary in order to retain Black's dark-squared bishop. This bishop controls the a7-g1 as well as the h8-a1 diagonal, and it targets the pawn on f2.] **20.♘c2 ♙xc2 21.♙xc2 ♙e5** [A good move, but not the best one. As it turns out, ♙e1! was the best move according to Stockfish. This move adds more pressure on the f2 pawn, ties the queen to c2 in order to defend the pawn, and it also stops the c1 bishop from getting into the game.] **22.♙a3 c4!** [Another important move by Black. This pawn move takes away the b3 and d3 squares from White's pieces.] **23.♙f3 ♙e8!** [With this move, all of Black's pieces are ideally placed.] **24.b3?** [This move makes Black's job easier. It allows Black to create a passed pawn on the queenside.] **24...♙b4 25.♙d1 ♙d8!?** [Actually, c3 would've won faster, but the text move is also good. This move targets the queen on d1 and generates a discovery threat.] **26.♙e3 c3 27.♙c1 c2!!** [Now the threat of ♙b2 is simply overwhelming and White is losing.] **28.♙d2 ♙c5! 29.♙f4 ♙a2!** [The final blow. Now Black's passed pawn cannot be stopped.] **30.♙xd4 ♙xd4 0-1**

Neal, James Alex (2229) – Wan, Joseph (2238) [C06] (5), 26.03.2017

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.♟d2 ♟f6 4.e5 ♟fd7
5.♟d3 c5 6.c3 ♟c6 7.♟e2 c×d4 8.c×d4
f6 9.e×f6 ♟×f6 10.♟f3 ♟d6 11.0-0 ♟c7
12.h3 0-0 13.♟e3 ♟d7 14.♟e1 ♟ae8
15.♟c1 ♟b8 16.♟c3 a6 17.♟a4 e5
18.d×e5 ♟×e5 19.♟×e5 ♟×e5 20.♟c5
♟c8 21.b4 ♟h2+ 22.♟h1 ♟f4 23.♟d2
♟×e3 24.♟×e3 ♟f4 25.♟e2 ♟h5
26.♟×f4 ♟×f4 27.♟×e8 ♟×e8 28.♟f1
♟f7 29.♟d1 ♟e5 30.♟g1 g5 31.f3 ♟f6
32.♟f2 h5 33.♟c1 ♟e8 34.a4 ♟d8
35.♟d1

1/2-1/2

Try as they might neither James nor Joseph could break through and stand on the top of the podium with Dan. Michael Takahashi did an extremely good job in his first appearance at the closed scoring an impressive 1.5 and gaining 16 rating points.

A big thanks to Drake University Chess Club for their support of Iowa Chess. Jim Freerksen did an outstanding job of fixing problems and keeping players comfortable. The tournament was directed by Eric Vigil and Jim Freerksen.

Class A

#	Player	St	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	T
1	Gaul, Thomas	IA	1779*	1816*	D2	W6	W5	D4	3.0
2	Chen, Nathan	IA	1765*	1784*	D1	D4	W3	D5	2.5
3	Scharosch, Austin	IA	1765*	1777*	W6	D5	L2	W7	2.5
4	Alexander, Roger	IA	1800*	1800*	L5	D2	B0	D1	2.0
5	Shukla, Abhyudaya	IA	1744*	1752*	W4	D3	L1	D2	2.0
6	Hadlock, Geoffery	IA	1832*	1797*	L3	L1	U0	U0	0.0
7	Wolz, Dave	IA	1668*	1654*	U0	U0	U0	L3	0.0

Class B

#	Player	St	Pre	Post	1	2	3	T
1	Wolz, Dave	IA	1664*	1668*	L2	W4	W3	2.0
2	Corrigan, Erin	IA	1612*	1626*	W1	D3	D4	2.0
3	Carson, Bethany	IA	1614*	1610*	W4	D2	L1	1.5
4	Jacobs, Steve	IA	1474*	1459*	L3	L1	D2	0.5

Class C

#	Player	St	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	T
1	Wetter, Nathaniel	IA	1588/14	1590/18	W7	L3	W4	W8	3.0
2	Lapinsky, Stephen	IA	1417*	1490*	W8	L6	W5	W3	3.0
3	Weinrich, Joseph	IL	1414*	1481*	W11	W1	W6	L2	3.0
4	Fiedorowicz, Owen	IA	1491*	1520*	W13	W10	L1	W6	3.0
5	Vaughan-Carber, K	IA	999/00	1542/03	H0	W12	L2	W10	2.5
6	Vance, Robert S	IA	1464*	1460*	W12	W2	L3	L4	2.0
7	Vigil, Barry	IA	1248*	1245*	L1	W11	L8	X0	2.0
8	Lair, Michael Jos	IA	1253/19	1312/23	L2	W9	W7	L1	2.0
9	Peters, Carl H, D	IA	1520*	1484*	U0	L8	W12	D11	1.5
10	Rajjan, Sanjay	NE	1500*	1469*	H0	L4	W13	L5	1.5
11	Fiedorowicz, Jess	IA	1251*	1230*	L3	L7	B0	D9	1.5
12	Stinson, Russell	NE	1347*	1307*	L6	L5	L9	B0	1.0
13	Carson, Tim	IA	1206*	1200*	L4	B0	L10	F0	1.0

Iowa Class Delivers Many Champions

The Iowa Class tournament drew 62 players to the Drake Campus in Des Moines. The Class M/X/A was represented by all Class A players this year. Tom Gaul ended up in first place scoring 3/4. The Class B was a tie between Dave Wolz and Erin Corrigan. In their head to head encounter Corrigan defeated Wolz, but could only draw his other two games. Wolz won his other two games to achieve the 2/3 score. Class C ended up in a 4-way tie with Nathaniel Wetter, Steven Lapinsky, Joseph Weinrich (IL), and Owen Fiedorowicz all scored 3/4. Class D was taken by Troy Curfman. Troy raised his rating over 200 points in his undefeated effort. Class E and Under was won by the undefeated Prasad Madan. The event was directed by the team of Jim Freerksen, Bill Broich and Eric Vigil.

Class D

#	Player	St	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	T
1	Curfman, Troy	FL	984/08	1199/12	W6	W12	W9	W4	4.0
2	Dixit, Arun	IA	1343*	1334*	W13	L4	W12	W11	3.0
3	Kriegel, Matthew	IA	1220*	1267*	W11	W9	L4	W6	3.0
4	Behling, Brien	IA	1104/13	1264/17	W5	W2	W3	L1	3.0
5	Mackey, Douglas	IA	1352*	1307*	L4	W14	L6	W12	2.0
6	Lidgett, Isaac	IA	1222/22	1221*	L1	W7	W5	L3	2.0
7	Gray, Rex H	IA	1142*	1114*	D14	L6	D10	W15	2.0
8	Wiley, Jerry	IA	1053/19	1034/23	L12	L11	W14	W13	2.0
9	Denison, Christin	IA	1365*	1314*	W10	L3	L1	H0	1.5
10	Starr, Drake Cars	IA	1161*	1155*	L9	W13	D7	U0	1.5
11	Kroells, Ty	MN	732/03	896/06	L3	W8	H0	L2	1.5
12	Tivanski, Vlad	IA	1219*	1173*	W8	L1	L2	L5	1.0
13	Pathuru, Venkat	IA	1013*	977*	L2	L10	W15	L8	1.0
14	Mccullough, Sean	IA	889*	883*	D7	L5	L8	U0	0.5
15	Kerger, Trenton J	IA	801/23	775/25	U0	U0	L13	L7	0.0

Alexander, Roger (1800) – Shukla, Abhyudaya (1665) [B20]

Class A (1), 25.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.b4 cxb4 3.a3 d6 4.axb4
 5.c3 d6 6.d4 e6 7.d3 c7
 8.d3 g6 9.0-0 d7 10.d3 e3 d6
 11.d3 a6 12.d2 0-0 13.d4 d8
 14.d6 e8 15.d5 f8 16.d7 d6
 17.d8 b8 18.c4 b6 19.f1 d5
 20.exd5 exd5 21.dxb6 dxc4 22.dxc4
 d5 23.f2 e4 24.d1 a7 25.f3
 d4 26.d4 f7 27.f7+ 0-1

Gaul, Thomas (1779) – Chen, Nathan (1765) [A06]

Class A (1), 25.03.2017

1.d3 d5 2.b3 d6 3.d2 e6 4.e3 c5
 5.d5+ d7 6.e2 d6 7.d5 dxe5
 8.dxe5 d6 9.dxc6 dxc6 10.dxc6
 bxc6 11.a6 d6 12.d3 0-0 13.0-0

d4 14.g3 e5 15.h3 d6 16.e2 fe8
 17.g4 d4 18.d4 d5 19.c4 h6
 20.g2 e6 21.dxc5 g6 22.h1 f5
 23.d3 f6 24.h4 dxe3 25.dxe3 g3
 26.dxe5 e6 27.d4 h5 28.f3 f7
 29.e4 d4+ 30.g3 c7 31.e5 f8
 32.d6+ gxf6 33.f4
 1/2-1/2

Scharosch, Austin (1765) – Hadlock, Geoffrey (1832) [A65]

Class A (1), 25.03.2017

1.d4 d6 2.c4 g6 3.d3 g7 4.e4 d6
 5.dge2 0-0 6.d3 c5 7.d5 e6 8.d2
 exd5 9.cxd5 a6 10.a4 bd7 11.d4 e8
 12.0-0 a5 13.d2 b4 14.a5 b5
 15.axb6 dxb6 16.g5 f6 17.h6 d4
 18.dxc4 fxc4 19.dg7 d7 20.h6
 b8 21.fab1 f5 22.f4 fe4 23.dge4
 d5 24.dg5 fe8 1-0

Class E & Under

#	Player	Pre	Post	Pre-Q	Post-Q	1	2	3	4	5	T
1	Madan Prasad, Mri	1048*	1075*	983*	1035*	W9	W7	W3	W2	W10	5.0
2	Owens, Andrew	816/07	841/12	816/04	850/09	W19	W6	W14	L1	W7	4.0
3	Kayithi, Abhinav	681*	774*	690*	782*	W17	W8	L1	W4	W9	4.0
4	Kerger, Trenton J	802/18	801/23	779/14	788/19	W10	D5	W12	L3	W14	3.5
5	Sunkara, Prabhas	517*	633*	507*	633*	W23	D4	W6	L7	W12	3.5
6	Spry, Ian	550*	542*	573*	562*	W21	L2	L5	W13	W15	3.0
7	Martin, James D	568*	612*	584*	622*	W16	L1	W15	W5	L2	3.0
8	Grask, Blake	493/10	473/15	498/14	484/19	W22	L3	L11	W18	W17	3.0
9	Fink, Henry	301/10	439/15	311/10	449/15	L1	W13	W16	W11	L3	3.0
10	Xu, Chuan	518/22	572*	518/22	585*	L4	W21	W17	W14	L1	3.0
11	James, Leo	106/09	295/14	106/09	300/14	L15	W18	W8	L9	W19	3.0
12	Jithendra, Amogh	748*	672*	755*	676*	D13	W15	L4	W20	L5	2.5
13	Sanchez, Emmanuel	190/10	302/15	192/10	310/15	D12	L9	W19	L6	W20	2.5
14	Ducharme, Aidan	591*	549*	626*	577*	W18	W20	L2	L10	L4	2.0
15	Ducharme, Dylan	158/14	244/19	161/14	248/19	W11	L12	L7	W21	L6	2.0
16	Bui, Sophia	483/00	232/05	483/00	252/05	L7	W23	L9	L17	W22	2.0
17	Boesen, Jackson P	544/00	349/05	544/04	446/09	L3	W22	L10	W16	L8	2.0
18	Donahoo, Megan	622/00	227/05	622/00	235/05	L14	L11	W23	L8	W21	2.0
19	Ibsen, Adrien	291/10	242/14	307/10	255/14	L2	H0	L13	W23	L11	1.5
20	Disbro, John	189/05	188/09	203/05	201/09	H0	L14	W22	L12	L13	1.5
21	Boesen, Griffin T	407/00	101/04	407/00	101/04	L6	L10	B0	L15	L18	1.0
22	Fletcher, Alexand	392/00	101/04	392/00	101/04	L8	L17	L20	B0	L16	1.0
23	Palmer, Carter	366/00	101/04	366/00	101/04	L5	L16	L18	L19	B0	1.0

Gaul, Thomas (1779) –

Shukla, Abhyudaya (1665) [A01]

Class A (3), 25.03.2017

1.b3 d5 2.♖b2 ♘c6 3.e3 e5 4.♖b5 ♖d6
5.f4 exf4 6.♖xg7 ♖h4+ 7.♖f1 fxe3
8.dxe3 ♘f6 9.♖xh8 ♘e4 10.♖e1 1-0

Scharosch, Austin (1765) –

Chen, Nathan (1765) [D38]

Class A (3), 25.03.2017

1.d4 e6 2.c4 d5 3.♘f3 c6 4.♘c3 ♖b4
5.cxd5 exd5 6.♖c2 ♘f6 7.♖g5 0-0 8.e3
♖g4 9.♘e5 ♖h5 10.g4 ♖g6 11.♖xg6
fxg6 12.h4 ♖c7 13.♖e2 ♘bd7 14.0-0-0
♖xc3 15.♖xc3 ♘e4 16.♖e1 ♘xf2
17.♖f4 ♖xf4 18.exf4 ♘xh1 19.♖xh1
♖xf4+ 20.♖b1 ♖e8 21.♖d3 ♖xg4 0-1

Corrigan, Eric (1612) – Wolz, Dave (1664)

[A38] Class B (1), 25.03.2017

1.c4 c5 2.♘c3 ♘c6 3.g3 g6 4.♖g2 ♖g7
5.♘f3 ♘f6 6.0-0 d6 7.a3 0-0 8.d4 cxd4
9.♘d4 ♘xd4 10.♖xd4 ♘g4 11.♖d3
♘e5 12.♖e4 ♖b8 13.f4 ♖f5 14.♖d5 e6

15.♖b5 ♘g4 16.h3 ♖d4+ 17.e3 ♘xe3
18.♖xe3 ♖xe3+ 19.♖h2 ♖c7 20.♖f3
♖d4 21.♖e2 ♖g7 22.♖d1 ♖e4 23.♖e3
♖xg2 24.♖xg2 a6 25.♖a4 ♖xb2
26.♘d4 ♖c5 27.♖ed3 ♖xa3 28.♖xa3
♖xa3 29.♖xa3 b5 30.cxb5 axb5 31.♘c6
♖b6 32.♖d6 ♖g7 33.♖a5 ♖b7 34.♖d8
♖xd8 35.♖xd8 b4 36.♖d4+ f6 37.♘xb4
♖f7 38.h4 h6 39.♖c5 g5 40.hxg5 hxg5
41.fxg5 fxg5 42.♖h3 ♖f6 43.♖g4 ♖g7
44.♖d4+ ♖f7 45.♘c6 ♖g8 46.♖f6 ♖h7
47.♖xe6 ♖c7 48.♖f5+ ♖h6 49.♘e5
♖g7 1-0

Carson, Bethany (1614) – Wolz, Dave (1664) [B77]

Class B (3), 25.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 ♘c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♘xd4 g6
5.♘c3 ♖g7 6.♖e3 ♘f6 7.f3 0-0 8.♖c4
d6 9.♖d2 ♖e8 10.h4 h5 11.0-0-0 ♘e5
12.♖b3 ♖d7 13.♖h6 ♖h8 14.♖g5 ♖a5
15.f4 ♘h7 16.♖g3 ♘g4 17.♖g5 ♘xg5
18.hxg5 ♖c5 19.♖ce2 e6 20.c3 ♖b5
21.♖d2 ♖c4 22.♖hd1 ♖xb3 23.axb3
♖ac8 24.♖b1 e5 25.♘f3 exf4 26.♖xf4

4.f2 27.♖d5 ♗c7 28.♖1d2 ♜x e4 29.♖d1 ♗b6 30.♜e4 ♖xc3 31.bxc3 ♜xc3+ 32.♗c2 ♜xd5 33.♗d2 ♜e3+ 34.♗b1 ♜xd1 35.♗xd1 ♖e4 36.♜e2 ♗e3 37.♜eg1 ♗c3 0-1

Carson, Tim (1206) – Fiedorowicz, Owen (1491) [C20]

Class C (1), 25.03.2017

1.c4 e5 2.e4 ♜f6 3.d3 ♜c5 4.♜e2 ♜c6 5.♜f3 h6 6.♜c3 d6 7.h3 0-0 8.a3 a5 9.♜d2 ♜e8 10.♗c1 f5 11.♜xh6 gxh6 12.♗xh6 ♗f6 13.♗g5+ ♗xg5 14.♜xg5 fx e4 15.♜xc e4 ♜f5 16.♜f3 ♜d4 17.0-0 ♜xe2+ 18.♗h1 ♜xe4 19.dxe4 ♜f6 20.♖ae1 ♜f4 21.♜h4 ♜d3 22.♖e2 ♜xf2+ 23.♗h2 ♜6xe4 24.♜f3 ♗g7 25.b4 ♜g4+ 26.♗h1 ♜g3# 0-1

Fiedorowicz, Owen (1491) – Rajjan, Sanjay (1500) [B22]

Class C (2), 25.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.c3 ♜c6 3.d4 cxd4 4.cxd4 d5 5.exd5 ♗xd5 6.♜f3 ♜f6 7.♜c3 ♗d8 8.♜b5 ♜d7 9.♜f4 a6 10.♜c4 ♜g4 11.♗b3 e6 12.♜e5 ♜a5 13.♗a4+ b5 14.♜xb5 ♜xc4 15.♜c7+ ♗e7 16.♜c6+ ♗d7 17.♜d8+ ♗xd8 18.♗xc4 ♖c8 19.♖c1 ♜e7 20.0-0 ♗d7 21.♗c6+ ♗d8 22.f3 ♜f5 23.g4 ♜d3 24.♜xe6+ fx e6 25.♗xc8# 1-0

Wetter, Nathaniel (1588) – Weinrich, Joseph (1414) [B45]

Class C (2), 25.03.2017

1.e4 c5 2.♜f3 ♜c6 3.♜c4 e6 4.♜c3 ♜f6 5.d4 cxd4 6.♜xd4 a6 7.♜g5 ♜e7 8.♗d2 ♗b6 9.0-0-0 0-0 10.h4 ♜xd4 11.♗xd4 ♗xd4 12.♖xd4 h6 13.♜e3 ♜g4 14.♗d2 b5 15.♜e2 ♜xe3 16.fx e3 ♜f6 17.♖d3 ♖d8 18.a3 ♜b7 19.♜f3 ♜e5 20.g4 f5 21.♖f1 ♜xc3+ 22.♖xc3 fx e4 23.♖c7 ♜c6 24.♜d1 ♖f8 25.♖f4 ♖xf4 26.ex f4 ♗f8 27.♗e3 ♗e7 28.h5 ♗d6 29.♖xc6+ ♗xc6 30.♗xe4 ♗d6 31.♜e2 ♖c8 32.♜d3 ♖c5 33.b3 a5 34.b4 ♖c3 35.bxa5 ♖xa3 36.♜xb5 ♖xa5 37.c4 ♗e7 38.f5 d5+ 39.♗d4 dxc4 40.♗xc4 ex f5 41.gxf5 ♖xb5 42.♗xb5 ♗f6 0-1

Weinrich, Joseph (1414) – Lapinsky, Steven (1417) [B01]

Class C (4), 25.03.2017

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 ♗xd5 3.♜c3 ♗d8 4.d4 ♜f6 5.♜f3 ♜g4 6.♜e2 e6 7.♜g5 ♜e7 8.♗d2 ♜bd7 9.0-0 c6 10.♖he1 ♜b6

11.h3 ♜f5 12.g4 ♜g6 13.♜e5 ♜bd5 14.♜xd5 cxd5 15.♜b5+ ♗f8 16.f4 ♜e4 17.♜xe7+ ♗xe7 18.♗e3 a6 19.♜d3 ♖c8 20.♜xg6+ hxg6 21.♜xe4 dxe4 22.♗xe4 ♖xh3 23.d5 ♖h2 24.dxe6 ♖hx c2+ 25.♗xc2 ♖xc2+ 26.♗xc2 fx e6 27.f5 gx f5 28.gxf5 ♗c5+ 29.♗d2 ex f5 30.♖g1 ♗f7 31.a3 ♗f6 32.♖df1 g5 33.♖g3 ♗d4+ 0-1

Lair, Michael (1253) – Wetter, Nathaniel (1588) [D80]

Class C (4), 25.03.2017

1.d4 ♜f6 2.c4 g6 3.♜c3 d5 4.♜g5 c6 5.♜xf6 ex f6 6.e3 ♜g7 7.♜f3 0-0 8.♜e2 dxc4 9.♜xc4 ♜e6 10.♜d3 ♗a5 11.0-0 ♜d7 12.a3 b5 13.b4 ♗c7 14.e4 ♜b6 15.♖c1 ♖ac8 16.♜xb5 ♗d7 17.♜c3 ♜c4 18.d5 cxd5 19.exd5 ♜g4 20.♜xc4 ♖xc4 21.♗d3 ♖fc8 22.♜a2 ♜f5 23.♗e3 ♗xd5 24.♖xc4 ♗xc4 25.♖c1 ♗xa2 26.♖xc8+ ♜xc8 27.h3 ♜b7 28.♗xa7 ♜xf3 29.gxf3 f5 30.b5 ♗b1+ 31.♗g2 ♗xb5 32.h4 ♗b2 33.a4 ♜d4 0-1

Curfman, Troy (984) – Tivanski, Vladimir (1219) [A29]

Class D (2), 25.03.2017

1.c4 e5 2.♜c3 ♜c6 3.g3 ♜f6 4.♜g2 ♜c5 5.♜f3 d6 6.e4 ♜g4 7.h3 ♜h5 8.g4 ♜g6 9.♜h4 ♜xe4 10.♜xe4 ♜xe4 11.♜xe4 ♗xh4 12.d4 ♜b4+ 13.♗f1 h6 14.d5 ♜e7 15.♗a4+ c6 16.♗xb4 0-0 17.♗xd6 f5 18.♗e6+ ♖f7 19.♜d6 ♖af8 20.♜xf7 ♖xf7 21.d6 fxg4 22.♜e3 ♜f5 23.♜xa7 ♜g3+ 24.♗g2 ♜e4 25.hxg4 ♗g5 26.♜e3 ♗d8 27.♖ad1 ♗f8 28.♖xh6 gxh6 29.♜xh6+ ♗g8 30.♗g6+ ♗h8 31.♗xf7 ♗f6 1-0

Denison, Christine (1365) – Curfman, Troy (984) [B12]

Class D (3), 25.03.2017

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 ♜f5 4.♜f3 e6 5.♜c3 ♜d7 6.♜e2 ♗b6 7.0-0 0-0-0 8.♜g5 ♜g6 9.♜h5 ♜h6 10.♜xg6 hxg6 11.♜f3 ♜e7 12.a4 a6 13.a5 ♗c7 14.b3 ♜b4 15.♜e2 ♜xa5 16.c3 f6 17.♜f4 g5 18.♜g3 ♜f5 19.b4 ♜xg3 20.♜xg3 ♜b6 21.ex f6 gx f6 22.♗b3 g4 23.♜d2 ♗f4 24.♗b2 ♜c7 25.♜b3 ♗h6 26.f3 ♗xh2+ 27.♗f2 ♗xg3+ 28.♗e2 ♗xg2+ 29.♖f2 gx f3+ 30.♗e3 ♗g5+ 31.♗xf3 ♖h3+ 32.♗e2 ♗e3+ 33.♗f1 ♖g8 34.♖g2 ♖h1+ 35.♖g1 ♖hxg1# 0-1

Neal and "The South Dakota Kids" Dominate Okoboji Open and Reserve

By Sam Smith

James Neal turned in a workman-like performance in winning the 11th Okoboji Open, held during the weekend of April 21-23. The Iowa Master defeated a number of strong tournament players before taking a quick fifth round draw offer to lock up the win. Neal earned a \$500 check and trophy as rewards for his fine victory.

South Dakota's rising young star Josiah Jorenby, a familiar face at both the Okoboji open and Jackson Open "Super Reserve", took second place honors with 4 points, losing only to Neal in the fourth round. The performance pushed his rating past the 2000 point barrier for the first time, a goal going into this tournament, and earned him \$350.

Iowa's Robert Reynolds (3rd Place), Michael Takahashi (U2000), and Tony Dutiel (U1800) all took home \$146.66 with 3.5 points each. University of Minnesota student Ian Stone took home the U1600 prize of \$100 with 2.5 points.

In the Reserve section, the story was the remarkable Chet Marks family. Making their return to the area for the first time since the 2014 Jackson Open, Chet and three of his 10 (!) chess-playing kids made the long trip from Batesland, SD on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. With daughter Susanna taking first prize (\$300 and trophy) with 4.5 points and son Micah capturing second prize (\$175) with 4.0, this was one tournament that was definitely worth the trip! Daughter Hannah didn't bring home any money but played some good chess and is also a young player with a bright future.

Iowa's Mark Capron and Minnesota's Sam Smith split the \$125 3rd place money with 3.5 points while Arthur Tao (U1400) and Mrit Madan Prasad (U1250) each took home \$87.50 with the same score. U1000

#	Player	St	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	5	T
1	Neal, James Alex,	IA	2239*	2245*	W9	W8	W19	W2	D4	4.5
2	Jorenby, Josiah I	SD	1996*	2025*	W24	W21	W12	L1	W6	4.0
3	Reynolds, Robert	IA	1974*	1967*	L5	W25	W21	D6	W17	3.5
4	Takahashi, Michae	IA	1956*	1975*	W23	D5	D17	W12	D1	3.5
5	Dutiel, Tony	NE	1794*	1888*	W3	D4	D6	W19	D7	3.5
6	Thangavel, Gokul	IA	1958*	1957*	W16	W15	D5	D3	L2	3.0
7	Fee, Kenneth E, J	MO	1896*	1889*	W25	L12	W16	D17	D5	3.0
8	Cusumano, Steven	NE	1905*	1912*	W22	L1	D15	D11	W20	3.0
9	Gaustad, Kevin A	MN	1843*	1885*	L1	W23	D11	D13	W18	3.0
10	Whitsell, Frank	MO	1803*	1851*	W13	L19	D18	D15	W22	3.0
11	Raines, David T	NE	1754*	1790*	H0	D17	D9	D8	W19	3.0
12	Keating, Robert F	IA	2124*	2097*	W20	W7	L2	L4	D14	2.5
13	Murray, William J	MN	2077*	2046*	L10	W14	D20	D9	D15	2.5
14	Ellis, James S	WI	1794*	1810*	L19	L13	W25	W21	D12	2.5
15	Gaul, Thomas	IA	1816*	1847*	W18	L6	D8	D10	D13	2.5
16	Jorenby, Destiny	SD	1601*	1619*	L6	B0	L7	D22	W23	2.5
17	Stone, Ian Alexan	MN	1515*	1574*	B0	D11	D4	D7	L3	2.5
18	Gradskey, Benjamin	KS	2150*	2104*	L15	W24	D10	D20	L9	2.0
19	Voje, Daniel W	MN	2015*	1988*	W14	W10	L1	L5	L11	2.0
20	Baker, John M	MN	1846*	1853*	L12	W22	D13	D18	L8	2.0
21	Mills, Michael	NE	1690*	1682*	B0	L2	L3	L14	W25	2.0
22	Delay, Joe	IL	1693*	1681*	L8	L20	W23	D16	L10	1.5
23	Martinez, Salvado	KS	1759*	1713*	L4	L9	L22	W25	L16	1.0
24	Ghosh, Dipankar	MN	1694*	1686*	L2	L18	H0	U0	U0	0.5
25	Reigenborn, Jonat	NE	1672*	1619*	L7	L3	L14	L23	L21	0.0

honors went to Troy Curfman and Estherville, Iowa's James Williams, splitting the \$50 prize with 2.0 points each.

The Okoboji Blitz, held after the first round action late on Friday night, only attracted four players (Micah Marks had wanted to play but was getting some sleep after his family's long trip.) Thangavel and Neal finished with 4.5 points, splitting their 2-game series. Minnesota's Dan Voje scored 2.5 points and lo-

wa's Tom Gaul took a draw with Thangavel as some consolation.

#	Player	St	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	5	T
1	Marks, Susanna	SD	1415*	1475*	W16	W12	W13	D5	W6	4.5
2	Marks, Micah	SD	1569*	1582*	D17	W9	D11	W13	W5	4.0
3	Smith, Sam R	MN	1514*	1481*	L12	W16	W22	W14	D9	3.5
4	Capron, Mark	IA	1499*	1489*	L22	W15	W12	W8	H0	3.5
5	Tao, Arthur	SD	1360*	1427*	W23	W7	W8	D1	L2	3.5
6	Madan Prasad, Mri	IA	1075*	1290*	H0	W17	W7	W11	L1	3.5
7	Adams, Lynn P	MN	1541*	1500*	W14	L5	L6	W22	W11	3.0
8	Popov, Sergey	IA	1406/18	1409/23	W24	W22	L5	L4	W14	3.0
9	Dixit, Arun	IA	1372*	1371*	H0	L2	W19	W20	D3	3.0
10	Patrick, Earney	MO	1500*	1500*	L18	L13	W15	D12	W19	2.5
11	Trettel, Michael	MN	1495*	1465*	W20	W21	D2	L6	L7	2.5
12	Wiley, Jerry	IA	1034/23	1122*	W3	L1	L4	D10	W20	2.5
13	Jefferson, Larry	MN	1457*	1452*	W15	W10	L1	L2	U0	2.0
14	Marks, Hannah	SD	1115*	1139*	L7	W23	W21	L3	L8	2.0
15	Curfman, Troy	FL	1231/17	1245/22	L13	L4	L10	W18	W17	2.0
16	Williams, James J	IA	851/22	865*	L1	L3	B0	L19	W22	2.0
17	Tao, Jianning	SD	1265*	1224*	D2	L6	L20	W21	L15	1.5
18	Kruse, Jodene	IA	1193*	1214*	W10	U0	H0	L15	U0	1.5
19	Tao, Christopher	SD	860*	856*	L21	D20	L9	W16	L10	1.5
20	Breuer, Jj	IA	174/11	334/16	L11	D19	W17	L9	L12	1.5
21	Cunningham, Charl	MO	1469*	1384*	W19	L11	L14	L17	U0	1.0
22	Marks, Chet	SD	1113*	1100*	W4	L8	L3	L7	L16	1.0
23	Buzzell, Jayne El	MN	686/12	681/14	L5	L14	H0	U0	U0	0.5
24	Adams, Lynn P	MN	1541*	1500*	L8	U0	U0	U0	U0	0.0

Popov,Sergey (1406) – Capron,Mark (1499)
[D94] 11th Okoboji Reseve Okoboji, IA (4),
[Capron,Mark]

1.d4 ♟f6 2.c4 g6 3.♟f3 ♟g7 4.♟c3 d5 5.e3
♟g4? [I looked at the ♟b3 response and
thought I could play dxc4 and his Q had to take
on c4. Opps I was quite wrong. I was sup-
prised to see this move was played in my data-
base a number of times. I should have just
castled. 5...0-0 6.Be2 c5] 6.♟b3 b6 7.cxd5
♟xf3 8.gxf3 0-0 9.♟d2 c6 10.dxc6 ♟xc6
11.♟a6 ♟a5 [11...e5 could be played as well.
12.d5] 12.♟b5 ♟c7 [12...♟e8 is best according
to Fritz] 13.h4 ♟ad8 14.♟c1 ♟b8 15.♟e4
♟xe4? [15...♟a8] 16.fxe4 h5 [Again Fritz likes
the move 16...e5] 17.♟b4? [I thought this was a
winning move during the game. I was actually
considering resigning. 17.b4!] 17...♟fe8??
[17...♟xd4! 18.♟e2 (18.exd4 ♟f4 19.♟d1 ♟xe4+
20.♟d2 ♟xd4+) 18...♟f6] 18.♟g5? ♟f6
[18...♟xd4 19.exd4 ♟xd4 20.♟c3 ♟xe4+] 19.♟g2

e5 [I finally play e5.] 20.♟b5 exd4 21.♟xe8
♟xe8 22.exd4 ♟xd4 [22...♟f4= 23.0-0 ♟xe4
24.♟c8+ ♟h7 25.♟c3] 23.b3 ♟f4 24.0-0= ♟xe4
25.♟c8+ ♟h7 26.♟c3 ♟xc3 [26...Qxh4]
27.♟xc3 ♟xh4 28.♟h3 ♟e7 29.♟h2 ♟c6
30.f3 ♟e1 [somehow I dropped my rook onto
e1 and was supposed to be e2. The horror!!
When I looked up after writing Re2 on my
scoresheet and I saw that wasn't what I played,
I scoured the board making sure I didn't just
simply drop a piece. Luckily I hadn't. 30...♟e2]
31.♟c2? [31.♟xe1 ♟xe1+ 32.♟g2 ♟d2+ 33.♟h1
♟d1+] 31...♟e3+ 32.♟g2?? [My opponents time
had gotten quite short and so I wasn't surprised
when a blunder came. I still felt a bit sorry for
him as he was convincingly winning and some-
how the tables turned.] 32...♟e2+ 33.♟xe2
♟xe2+ 34.♟f2 ♟e6 35.♟h1 ♟d4 36.♟d1 ♟f5
37.♟c1 [avoiding the ♟e3+ fork.] 37...♟g7
38.♟fc2 [and then walking right back into the
fork.] 38...♟e3+ 0-1

Undefeated in Wellsburg

By Bethany Carson

Accolades go to Steven Cusumano of Nebraska after a resounding finish in Wellsburg. The 1907-rated Cusumano dominated the 17-player field on May 13, finishing with a perfect score, after defeating Thomas Gaul in the championship game.

Cusumano's other victories were hard-fought struggles with Tim Crouse, Tom Hesse and Daniel Carson. Hesse and Carson both leveraged their redoubtable skills against Cusumano in 60+ move battles.

Second place in the Open went to William Polzin of Ames, undefeated with 3.5 out of 4. Polzin yielded a second round draw to Thomas Gaul.

John Trunnell finished third with 3.0, after scoring a final round upset against Ivan Wijetunge for a memorable finish to his day. Tom Gaul, Daniel Carson and Ben Darr each scored 2.5 to win the U2000 and U1800 prizes.

In the Wellsburg Reserve, Tim Carson wrecked havoc in the 10-player field, upsetting his way to first place with 4.0, while Escher Hiatt wrapped up second with 3 points in his second-ever rated event. Top U1400 was earned by Charity Carson with 2.5.

Many thanks to Daniel Carson for acting as assistant TD. Thanks to my mom, Betty Carson, for serving and helping prepare lunch, and to my whole family (and players) who helped with set-up/clean-up.

This was the third Wellsburg Open. Players who have participated all three years are Mark Capron, Steve Jacobs, William Polzin, Abhyudaya Shukla and Tim, Charity, Daniel, and Sarah Faith Carson.

I always enjoy hosting the Wellsburg Open. Thanks to all who participated. You brightened my day.



Steven Cusumano (left)



Tim Carson and Elliott Hiatt (R) (right)



Dan Carson and Ben Darr (r) (left)



William Polzin and John Trunnell (r) (right)

Open

#	Player	ST	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	T
1	Cusumano, Steven	NE	1907*	1953*	W6	W12	W7	W4	4.0
2	Polzin, William J	IA	1754*	1823*	W17	D4	W11	W7	3.5
3	Trunnell, John M	IA	1652/14	1729/18	L7	W17	W14	W11	3.0
4	Gaul, Thomas	IA	1837*	1845*	W14	D2	W8	L1	2.5
5	Darr, Benjamin J	IA	1768*	1765*	W15	L7	W9	D6	2.5
6	Carson, Daniel	IA	1645*	1686*	L1	W15	W12	D5	2.5
7	Hesse, Thomas	IA	1807*	1809*	W3	W5	L1	L2	2.0
8	Shukla, Abhyudaya	IA	1721*	1729*	H0	W13	L4	D12	2.0
9	Potter, Clark Pre	IA	1606*	1640*	W13	L11	L5	W14	2.0
10	Lapinsky, Stephen	IA	1490*	1516*	L12	L14	W16	W15	2.0
11	Wijetunge, Ivan	MN	1946*	1912*	H0	W9	L2	L3	1.5
12	Crouse, Tim	IA	1800*	1800*	W10	L1	L6	D8	1.5
13	Alexander, Roger	IA	1801*	1800*	L9	L8	L15	B0	1.0
14	Mills, Michael	NE	1707*	1671*	L4	W10	L3	L9	1.0
15	Deyoung, Daniel A	IA	1452*	1456*	L5	L6	W13	L10	1.0
16	Carson, Bethany	IA	1610*	1584*	U0	U0	L10	U0	0.0
17	Skilling, Brandt	IA	1292*	1286*	L2	L3	U0	U0	0.0

Reserve

#	Player	ST	Pre	Post	1	2	3	4	T
1	Carson, Tim	IA	1200*	1445*	W7	W4	W5	W3	4.0
2	Hiatt, Escher	IA	1442/03	1550/07	L4	W7	W6	W5	3.0
3	Carson, Charity	IA	1270*	1353*	H0	W9	W8	L1	2.5
4	Dixit, Arun	IA	1445*	1454*	W2	L1	D9	D6	2.0
5	Gray, Rex H	IA	1114*	1242*	W6	W8	L1	L2	2.0
6	Carson, Sarah Fai	IA	1599*	1540*	L5	W10	L2	D4	1.5
7	Corrigan, Erin	IA	1592*	1539*	L1	L2	W10	D8	1.5
8	Capron, Mark	IA	1474*	1421*	W10	L5	L3	D7	1.5
9	Jacobs, Steve	IA	1459*	1428*	H0	L3	D4	U0	1.0
10	Roorda, Sean Chri	IA	1300/00	1021/03	L8	L6	L7	B0	1.0

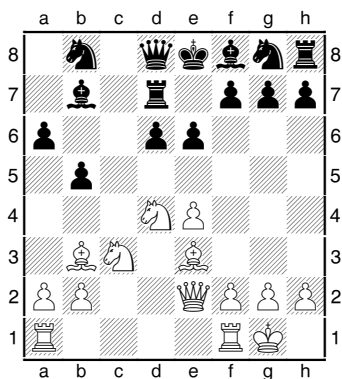
Ben Darr annotates:

Ben Darr – Clark Potter [B21]

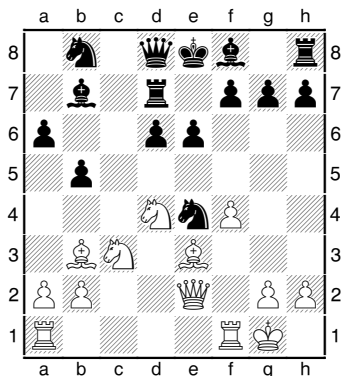
Wellsburg Open 2017 Wellsburg, IA (3)

1.e4 c5 2.d4 [The Morra Gambit.] **2...cxd4 3.c3 dxc3** [Clark boldly accepts the gambit.] **4.dxc3** [For the pawn, white has uncontested central control, is two-and-a-half steps ahead in development, and has greater freedom of movement.] **4...e6 5.dxf3 d6 6.dxc4 a6 7.0-0 b5 8.dxb3 Ba7** [This unusual rook lift marks the Chicago Defense, with an understandable idea of breaking the annoying pin on the d-pawn

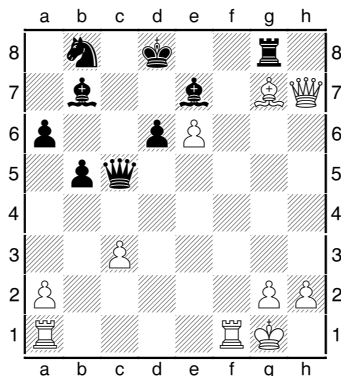
by swinging the rook to d7. Clark has played this against me before, so I knew some of the sacrificial ideas against it, some of which are well illustrated in this game. The Chicago Defense is stronger when black first takes time for **dxc6**, which crucially controls d4.] **9.dxe3 Bd7 10.d4** [The rook on d7 has a downside, though: it obstructs the bishop's protection of e6. The white knight takes aim. Black could swap knights if he had first played **dxc6**.] **10...Ab7 11.0e2** [This move does a couple of things: it completes white's



development, who is now way ahead in that respect, and it also offers an indirect defense of e4. Finally, it eyes possible sacrifices on b5. An immediate 11.f4 would have been better, moving straight into white's plan of cracking open black's center at all costs. Putting the queen on e2 isn't as powerful as in many other Morra lines, mostly because black's Chicago rook can effectively meet threats on the d- or e-files.] 11...♖f6 [Black wisely gets another piece out before going pawn-hunting. 11...b4 12.♗a4 ♗x4 is met by 13.♗x6 fxe6 14.♗b6 ♖h4 15.g3 ♖e7 16.♖x4 d5 17.♖e2 And White's gotten a great bargain for the pawn he spent.] 12.f4 [Most engines will recommend f3 here, which in my view is giving up on the Morra entirely. The idea of this move will be evident shortly.] 12...♗x4 [Black is



now not only two pawns ahead, but they are both valuable central pawns.] 13.♗x6! [Sacrificing the right piece. Also, trading on e4 first would have been a mistake, letting black block the e-file with the bishop and support it later with d5.] 13...♗xc3 14.bxc3 fxe6 15.♗x6 [White has evened up the pawn count, but at the cost of a knight!] 15...♗e7 [This rook is likely going to have to give itself up for a bishop anyway, so perhaps ♗e7 would have been better here, try to consolidate with two minor pieces for a rook. But it seems that Black's kingside falls apart either way. 15...♗e7] 16.f5 [The e6 bishop is ideally placed and is not going anywhere. The f-pawn is now an active participant, too.] 16...♗x6 [Moving the queen was the only alternative, otherwise the immediate threat of ♖h5+ would end the game.] 17.fxe6 [The bishop is gone, but the pawn provides a nice replacement while simultaneously opening the f-file for white's rook.] 17...♗e7 [Again, moving the queen away to give the king some space is probably better here. Black now has too many targets for White on the kingside.] 18.♗d4 ♖c7 [Finally giving d8 to the king, since threats of Qh5+ still linger.] 19.♗xg7 ♗g8 20.♖h5+ ♗d8 21.♖xh7 [White maintains the initiative while eating black's remaining kingside pawns. But black has tricks up his sleeve as well.] 21...♖c5+!



[Setting an excellent trap, and giving white more than once chance to screw up.]

22.♟f2! [22.♞h1? ♠xg2+ 23.♞xg2 ♜g5+ And white is forced to subject his own king to open-board brutality, for there is no sanctuary on h1. 24.♞h1? ♠xg7 25.♞h3 or ♜c2 25...♞d5+ with mate coming on g2.; 22..♠d4? ♠xg2+ 23.♞h1 ♠g3+ with mate to follow.] **22...♞e8 23.♠d4 ♜d5?** [A critical mistake, allowing a pretty finish by white. Better was ♜c6 or ♜c7, where black struggles, but is still in the game. 23...♜c6]

24.♠b6+ ♜c8 25.♜xe7! [Grabbing a bishop and threatening mates on c7 and e8.] **25...♜c6** [A defensive move I had somehow missed. But lucky for me, it's not enough. 25...♠xe7 26.♠f8+ ♠e8 27.♠xe8#] **26.♜f7** [Not getting too flashy, white steps out of the way while still menacing the e8 rook. Down the exchange and two pawns, and with his pieces frozen in place, black resigned.] **1-0**

2017 AMES FIDE OPEN

TD: Bill Broich

6/3-4/2017

#	Player	St	Pre	Post	!	2	3	4	5	T
1	Neal, James Alex,	IA	2233*	2248*	W20	W17	W10	W4	D2	4.5
2	Brashaw, Daniel	IA	2287*	2289*	W22	W12	H0	W8	D1	4.0
3	Mokriak, Luidmila	KS	2135*	2117*	D30	W26	D7	D19	W17	3.5
4	Fowler, Samuel Is	MO	2115*	2110*	W23	W19	W11	L1	D9	3.5
5	Takahashi, Michae	IA	1981*	1966*	L15	W25	D6	W31	W18	3.5
6	Cusumano, Steven	NE	1910*	1922*	W24	D9	D5	W14	D7	3.5
7	Le, Harry	NE	1910*	1933*	W31	W14	D3	D10	D6	3.5
8	Hartmann, John R	NE	1857*	1876*	W25	W15	H0	L2	W19	3.5
9	Crouse, Tim	IA	1828*	1862*	W34	D6	H0	W11	D4	3.5
10	Keating, Robert F	IA	2095*	2082*	W21	W18	L1	D7	D12	3.0
11	Gudino, Pedro	IL	1904/19	1883/24	W32	W29	L4	L9	W24	3.0
12	Peralta, Luis M	IL	1827*	1840*	W33	L2	D15	W20	D10	3.0
13	Polzin, William J	IA	1821*	1795*	D26	D30	D21	H0	W23	3.0
14	Scharosch, Austin	IA	1772*	1759*	W35	L7	W34	L6	W25	3.0
15	Smokowski, Jose	KS	1521*	1644*	W5	L8	D12	D22	W30	3.0
16	Vigil, Barry	IA	1416*	1467*	L17	D23	H0	W29	W22	3.0
17	Gaul, Thomas	IA	1868*	1858*	W16	L1	D30	W21	L3	2.5
18	Hesse, Thomas	IA	1809*	1804*	W27	L10	H0	W30	L5	2.5
19	Alexander, Roger	IA	1800*	1800*	W28	L4	W24	D3	L8	2.5
20	Mills, Michael	NE	1753*	1732*	L1	W32	W29	L12	D33	2.5
21	Joseph, Rita	KS	1536*	1561*	L10	W27	D13	L17	W31	2.5
22	Heinrich, Joel G	WI	1795*	1754*	L2	W33	D31	D15	L16	2.0
23	Corrigan, Erin	IA	1539*	1523*	L4	D16	D32	W34	L13	2.0
24	Lapinsky, Stephen	IA	1516*	1514*	L6	W35	L19	W26	L11	2.0
25	Abousharkh, Josep	KS	1433*	1452*	L8	L5	W27	W32	L14	2.0
26	Vigil, Eric Golf	IA	1361*	1368*	D13	L3	H0	L24	W34	2.0
27	Gray, Rex H	IA	1242*	1237*	L18	L21	L25	W35	W28	2.0
28	Fichter, Matthew	IA	1055/14	1081/18	L19	L31	B0	W33	L27	2.0
29	Le, Benny	NE	683*	687*	B0	L11	L20	L16	W35	2.0
30	Sheshappa, Ankith	KS	1625*	1633*	D3	D13	D17	L18	L15	1.5
31	Province, Cael Do	KS	1473*	1470*	L7	W28	D22	L5	L21	1.5
32	Sheshappa, Sameet	KS	1449*	1424*	L11	L20	D23	L25	B0	1.5
33	Popov, Sergey	IA	1409/23	1382*	L12	L22	W35	L28	D20	1.5
34	Kumar, Vijay	NE	865*	860*	L9	B0	L14	L23	L26	1.0
35	Fichter, Tom Joe	IA	1300/00	311/05	L14	L24	L33	L27	L29	0.0

Iowa Graduates Bumper Crop of Elementary School Chess Stars

Jess G. Fiedorowicz

The scholastic chess scene in Iowa has been flourishing and the strength of this year's graduating class of elementary school (K-6) students highlights this well. Our Barber representative, Anish Lodh (6th Grade Wickham Elementary, Coralville, IA, facing picture on the left) reached a Class A rating after the Cedar Rapids Open in October 2016. Based on my review of records and contact with state chess leaders, the only other Iowa player to reach a Class A rating before graduating elementary school was Ziwen Zhou, who accomplished this as a 6th grader at Weber Elementary School in Iowa City four years prior. If you can confirm any other such players, please contact me to update this in a follow-up story.

Anish has faced some heavy completion from another 6th grade standout, Nathan Chen (facing picture on the right), a 6th grader in my club at Coralville Central Elementary School. The weekend before graduation, Nathan also climbed into Class A territory after having had back-to-back brilliant performances at Supernationals VII and the Chicago Open. Nathan and Anish drew their match in the Barber qualifier, which was followed by splitting two games in blitz tiebreaks and finally an Armageddon match. These two are no stranger to each other. Anish has played Nathan in rated games more than any other opponent and Anish has been Nathan's second most common matchup. These two friends have exchanged blows over the years, growing stronger together as the result. Anish earned the right to be our Barber representative while Nathan came out on top at the Individual Grades matchup (as pictured before their game).

The Individual Grades event nicely highlighted the strength of this Class of 2023. In the brutally competitive 6th grade section, eight of the seventeen players have had a USCF 1000+ rating at some time this year. Anish and Nathan are not only standouts in Iowa Chess history, they also round out an impressive lineup of graduating 6th graders. This graduating class includes Class B rated Abhyudaya Shukla of Riverdale Heights Elementary in Bettendorf, IA and Andrew Ogrin-Cotarlan, a Class C classmate of Anish at Wickham Elementary. There are also several Class D players: Eric Pieper, Justin Pieper (both of Borlaug Elementary, Coralville, IA), Jacob Vigil (Weber Elementary, Iowa City) and Siva Mannengi (Wickham Elementary).

If you are an adult player who has been surprised at the strength of some of our current scholastic players, this story may validate any losses or draws you may have incurred from this impressive field. Many thanks to those who have cultivated this bumper crop of elementary chess stars, including but not limited to outgoing State Scholastic Director Jim Hodina, IASCA president Eric Vigil, and local chess coach James Neal. It takes a village to raise these children and may we continue to instill a love for the game, the knowledge to succeed, and the sportsmanship with which to represent our community such that we may be proud of these and any continued accomplishments.

In almost any position the boundless possibilities of chess enable a new or at least a little-studied continuation to be found.—Petrosian

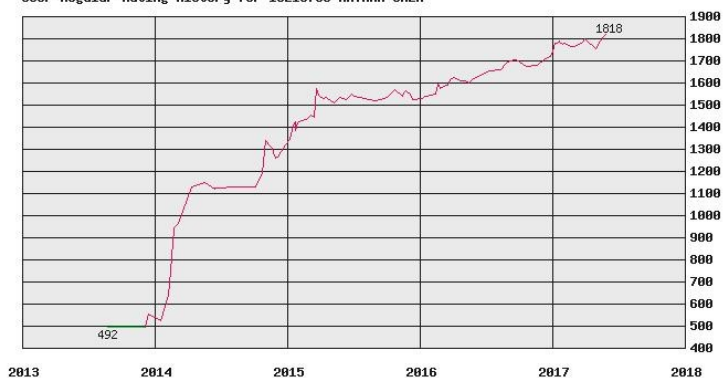
Chess helps you to concentrate, improve your logic. It teaches you to play by the rules and take responsibility for your actions, how to problem solve in an uncertain environment. - Garry Kasparov



USCF Regular Rating History for 14680747 ANISH LOOH



USCF Regular Rating History for 15213735 NATHAN CHEN



Puzzle Time Answer: 1. ♖a3+

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Iowa Chess Hall of Fame

After suggesting the Hall of Fame in last issue we have had many people comment about it, all positive.

At the Iowa Senior Championship I (Mark) was speaking with NM Mitch Weiss and he suggested that the first class we elect be limited to two people: John Osness and Roger Gotschall. I thought this was very appropriate.

Another example is the following letter from Bill Price.

Hi Mark,
I was browsing the Net recently and came across a PDF of the April 2017 issue of the ICEP. On page 27 you mention installing an Iowa Chess Hall of Fame. As an old-timer on the Iowa chess scene from the 1960's, I would like to suggest the following three individuals who are not on your list:

1. **Dan Reynolds** (20 Oct 1934 - Nov 1976). Dan Reynolds was Iowa state champion multiple times and also served as tournament director on occasion. Other than the dates above and the fact that he lived in Fort Dodge, I unfortunately have no further biographical data on Dan. (Dan introduced me to the USCF and Iowa chess in 1964.) You can find several of his games on my website <http://billpriceweb.com/iowachess.html>
2. **Dr. Arthur E. Crew** (9 Nov 1875 - Dec 1972) Dr. Crew is called the "Dean of Iowa chess" in the December 1962 issue of ICEP. He was Iowa State Champion in 1912. A short biography is attached. I never met him personally.
3. **Dr. Julius S. Weingart** (13 Jul 1881 - March 1968) Dr. Weingart is another prominent supporter of Iowa chess who I never met. He was a chess teacher for John Penquite and Dan Reynolds. See attached articles from 1962 and 1964 issues of ICEP.

I heartily agree with nominating John Osness, Dan Harger, and Syl Scorza, all three of whom I knew personally. John Osness was born 31 Mar 1917 and died on 18 Jan 1999. Additionally, I have the following birth and death dates for John Penquite: 2 Mar 1935 to 18 Feb 2007. Syl Scorza was born on 21 March 1923. Biographical information can be found on the Internet.

Regards,
Bill Price

And Another sent in by Ron Nurmi via Syl himself:

SYLVIO J. SCORZA – IA co-champion, 1964, 1974; IASCA office, 1960s, 1970s; TD, 1970s; Coach, elementary chess clubs

Syl is an emeritus professor, Northwestern College, Orange City, a former president of the Reformed Church in America, and a former lay member of the IA Board of Law Examiners.

He moved to Iowa in 1959 in his wheelchair and was active in chess tournaments for about 25 years. He had started chess in high school, and when laid up for a time played by postcards and V-mail. He participated in nine US Opens, and recently played online via chess.com.

When the IA state championship was open to any Iowa resident and chess masters were rare or non-existent in the state, he managed (as a B-class player) to win a 4-way and a 2-way tie for first place. His shelf has eight trophies, none of much importance.

In Orange City he met weekly for ten years at two different elementary schools to reach the game to students. He found no replacement when he retired.

Syl directed the Iowa Correspondence tournaments for many years.

I have started to go through all the En Passants I have starting with issue 1. There is some nice information in them. I plan to present some of my findings in the upcoming issues.

New & Returning Members

Mark Thompson	Atlantic
Destiny Jorenby	Brookings, SD
Josiah Jorenby	Brookings, SD
Patrick Earney	Lawson, MO
Dipankar Ghosh	Minneapolis, MN
Ian Stone	St. Paul, MN
Sam Smith	Jackson, MN
Isaac Lidgett	Council Bluffs
Roger Anderson	Ames
Daniel DeYoung	Nevada
Jim Freerksen (Patron)	Des Moines
Tom Fichter	Shanandoah
Mathew Fichter	Shanandoah
Joseph Willett (Patron)	Rock Island, IL
Matthew Kriegel (Patron)	Toledo
Michael Takahashi	Iowa City
Mina Takahashi	Iowa City
Gail Takahashi	Iowa City
Christian Schmitz	Iowa City

Iowa Chess En Passant
c/o Mark Capron
3123 Juniper Dr.
Iowa City, IA 52245



Jim Hodina and his daughter Regan.